The LUTHERAN

By Nicola D'Ascenzo

Altar Picture in the Chapel of the Church House, New York City

VOL. XXVII • NO. 45 • PHILADELPHIA, PA. • AUGUST 8, 1945

The LUTHERAN

Official Journal of the United Lutheran Church in America

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PUBLISHED weekly by the Board of Publication of the United Lutheran Church in America, 1228 Spruce Street, Philadelphia 7, Pa.
H. Torrey Walker, Business Manager
A. J. Arbogast, Circulation and Advertising
Subscription Price, $2 a Year
Entered as second-class matter, Oct. 29, 1923, at the Post Office, Phila., Pa., under act of March 3, 1879.

Depicts Reformation Principle

Painting Over Altar in ULCA Church House, New York, Significant of Evangelism

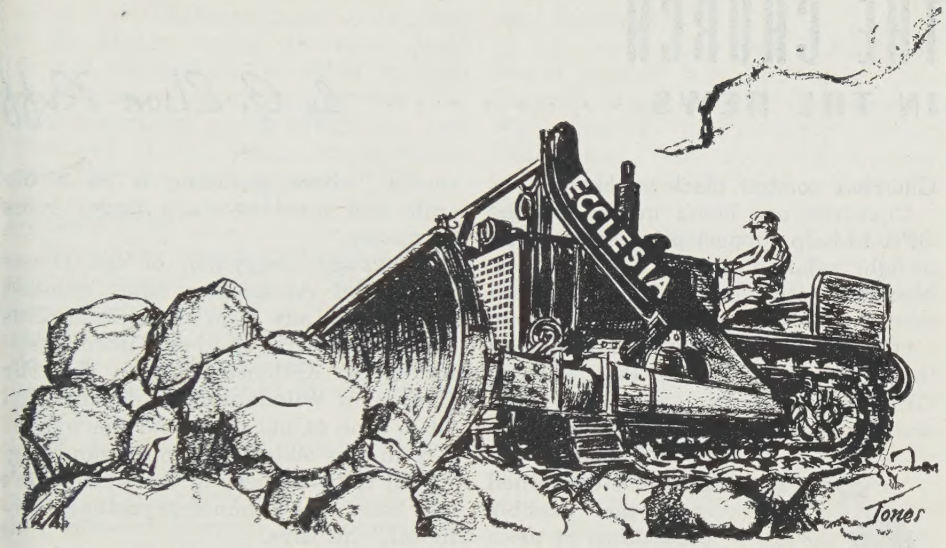
JULY 12 in connection with the meeting of the Executive Board of the ULCA an altar painting for the Church House Chapel was presented by Secretary W. I. Greever, representing a lay donor, and was received and consecrated in the name of the United Lutheran Church in America by its president, Franklin C. Fry.

The painting is the work of a richly talented, nationally known artist, Nicola D'Ascenzo, whose studio is in Philadelphia, Pa. It is not an exaggeration to say that this work will rank high among the great religious pictures, mosaics and stained glass windows which so definitely contribute to Christian worship.

The theme of the picture and the detail of its treatment indicate careful attention to its place and purpose. Its authorized title is "The Giving of the Great Commission." The scene is that indicated by the writers of the gospels as our Lord's final charge to His disciples.

In the selection of this theme, those authorized to advise Mr. D'Ascenco made dominant the objective of the Reformation of the sixteenth century and its charge to our generation of the twentieth. The term Evangelical is the correct word for the quarrel of Luther and his contemporaries with hierarchy, and Evangelism is increasingly the great purpose of the United Lutheran Church. The Church House can serve no greater purpose than to illuminate with evangelism these diversified operations.

Nor should the Church be unaware of its obligation to the donor of the chapel altar and other furnishings for worship. We join him in his desire, and in his hope that all who enter the Church House and participate in its activities may apprehend Christ's will and obey His command.



In Terms of a Modern Machine

IT WILL not surprise the editor of THE LUTHERAN to hear from his readers that Ecclesia, that is, The Church, is not properly the title of the machine so definitely pictured above. The word *Bulldozer* is a nickname. It is applied because the mechanism depends on its mass, its power, and its perseverance. It seems uncongruous to use it to label an institution where appeal, persuasion and choice are the reactions ordinarily sought.

The derivation of the title as indicated by our dictionary suggests principally the application of force at the will of a master, or it means a tool that achieves its purpose by breaking or crushing an obstacle.

But as of August 1945, Bulldozers are military weapons. They are road-makers pushing aside the obstructions which the Allied armies have encountered in driving enemy troops from invaded territory. They function by their enormous weight and by the tremendous thrust they are built to apply, being heavily engined, able to "grip the ground" and difficult to stop by opposition. Especially in jungle warfare such as has been necessary in the Far East, they have proven essentially useful. In the construction of much desired highways, they have figured pre-eminently.

THE LUTHERAN through them desires to suggest a way in which the Church must occasionally function. By the weight of its numbers and its distribution it enters upon enterprises which benefit people and provide opportunities for the Gospel to set up communion with God. It meets with threats, invitations to choose compromises and challenges to postpone its obedience to the Head of the Church. To none of these does it yield. Its power and purposes enable it to override opposition or to push it aside. In that sense its policy resembles the military use of Bulldozers.

THE CHURCH
IN THE NEWS . . . . . By G. Elson Ruf

Churches combat black market

CHURCHES are being invited by the OPA to help support price control and to fight inflation and the black market. Miss Elizabeth Lam has been appointed by OPA to seek church co-operation.

"Church groups can help people in the community to see that keeping OPA regulations is a matter of conscience," says Miss Lam. "Conscientious people are greatly concerned over the possible breakdown of price control and the black market's threat to the moral integrity of families and homes."

Miss Lam suggests that church groups appoint committees to visit OPA boards to see how they operate, to hold forums for discussion of OPA regulations, and have members serve on local OPA panels.

The end of the war in Europe has increased impatience with wartime restrictions. "Without courage and moral stamina we cannot maintain our stable economy in the critical months ahead," says Miss Lam. Churches are showing themselves keenly interested in the moral problems involved.

Argument about innocence

HONEST gambling for small stakes is harmless, and should be legal, says Father Francis Tucker in Wilmington, Delaware.

Father Tucker does not like the anti-gambling laws of Delaware because they prohibit the poor man wagering "his pennies, quarter, or dollar," but do not prevent horse racing "where gambling is on a b scale and involves much larger sun of money."

Protestant clergymen of the Dov Ministerial Association have brande gambling in any form as immoral. Th statement stirred Father Tucker, re tor of St. Anthony's Roman Catho Church in Wilmington, to declare th "it is time to put a stop to the hypo risy in this state concerning gamblin

"All the civil laws in the world do and can't make innocent pastimes im moral," he says.

Surprise

THE Roman Catholic is the offici religion in Spain. No other religio will be allowed public expression.

"The profession and practice of t Catholic religion, which is the religio of the Spanish state, will be given o ficial protection," states the chart approved by the Spanish parliament.

According to the charter, "no o will be molested for his religious b liefs and private practice thereof," b "no other ceremonies or external ma ifestations will be allowed exce those of the Catholic religion."

Dibelius is superintendent

DR. D. OTTO DIBELIUS has be named head of the new Evangelic Church government in Berlin a Brandenburg, according to a repo received by *Religious News Service*.

He is the first German clergyman be appointed to an official church p under the Allied Administration. T appointment has been approved Russian occupation authorities.

Dr. Dibelius is a member of t Confessional group which was strong

anti-Nazi. He was temporarily banished from Germany in the early days of the Hitler regime. In recent years he has engaged in the effort to train and ordain clergymen outside the Nazi-controlled universities. He was liberated from Nazi imprisonment when Berlin was captured.

Leaders arrive

WORD has come from Geneva of the arrival there of Dr. S. C. Michelfelder as the representative of the American section of the Lutheran World Convention. Dr. Michelfelder is on leave from his pastorate of St. Paul's Church, Toledo, Ohio.

He will co-operate with the World Council of Churches in reconstruction work. Along with Dr. Michelfelder, Dr. Stewart Herman also arrived in Geneva. Dr. Herman is author of the authoritative book, *It's Your Souls We Want,* a description of religious conditions in Germany under the Nazis. He has been sent by the World Council to lead the work of "revitalizing the Church in Germany."

A third arrival in Geneva is Dr. Benjamin J. Bush of Detroit, who is to represent the Presbyterian Church. Methodists have also appointed a representative, Dr. Werner T. Wickstrom of Chicago, who is soon to go to Geneva to join the World Council staff in the Department of Reconstruction and Interchurch Aid.

Story of Nelson

THE story of how Dr. Daniel Nelson engineered the rescue of 500 Lutheran missionaries in China is told by Richard T. Baker in a report to *Religious News Service.*

Dr. Nelson was sent to Chungking last summer by the American Section of the Lutheran World Convention. Japanese advances at that time were engulfing most of the Lutheran missions which had not previously been overrun. Dr. Nelson tried to get trucks to go after the missionaries, but found that impossible.

"His next move was a long shot, but it scored," says Mr. Baker. Ambassador Patrick J. Hurley listened to his arguments and agreed to consult with Lieut. Gen. A. C. Wedemeyer, commander of U. S. forces in the China theater.

"The Norwegians had helped us win the war with their heroic deeds in the merchant marine," insisted Dr. Nelson. As many of the entrapped missionaries were Norwegians, "why shouldn't their men be evacuated by American planes returning empty from advance bases?"

It was agreed that planes could be used, even to bring in a few of the German Lutheran missionaries who remained. One planeload of missionaries took off from a field while the Japanese were shooting at them with rifles.

Evacuation began in December and was completed in two months. Among the missionaries were Americans, Canadians, Danes, Finns, Germans, French, Icelanders, Swedes, Swiss, and Norwegians. Some of the evacuees are serving in Free China, a few in non-Lutheran missions. All but two of the Lutheran missions in China are now in Jap hands.

Methodist report

METHODIST offerings last year increased to $116,000,000, it is reported by Dr. Allen Hoover, official statistician.

Of the total, $93,354,786 was for local purposes and $21,598,525 for benevolence. The total does not include the special fund given in the "Crusade for Christ." Toward the special fund, $17,000,000 has been contributed in cash, and an additional $10,000,000 pledged.

Church membership increased 67,000 —bringing the total to 8,046,129. On church property valued at $731,403,538, debt was cut from $37,497,263 to $25,587,960 during the year.

IN THE WORLD'S EYE

By Julius F. Seebach

Books and magazines will be through with the worst of their troubles soon. Their publishers and writers can wield a freer hand; provide more generous page borders, and stop crowding the lines with smaller type. Books are sensitive about their appearance as well as women. Cause for the pending improvement starts first with the less extravagant uses of paper for military purposes, and the enlarging output of paper will do the rest. Our own home production is already rising. Canada promises a 5 percent to 6 percent increase, starting this month. Sweden is glad to dispose of her stockpile imposed by war conditions, and promises now 100,000 tons of pulp each month. This will also eliminate the use of second- and third-hand bags over the counter. Sweden especially is getting off to a fine head-start in this commercial stirring. She is also ready to export typewriters, radios, sewing machines, electrical equipment, Diesel engines and other articles in quantity from her built-up stores, while our own manufacturers are still "unconverted." Also she has the whole Latin-American market for the time being.

That the Hitler virus still poisons men may be realized from the report of a correspondent, Lincoln Kirstein. He says many Austrians he met spoke of Hitler not as Fuehrer but as GAK (Ganz Alte Kampfer—Real Old Fighter) and GROFAZ (Groesste Feldherr Aller Zeit—Greatest War Lord of all Time). More curious, however, is the infatuation of Knut Hamsun, 85-year-old Nobel Prize-winning Norwegian novelist, now under arrest for Nazi collaboration. In *Aftenposten,* a Norwegian journal, claiming that "many good people" belonged to the Nasjonal Samling (the Quisling organization), he offered this bizarre confession of faith: "I am not worthy to speak *noisy* words on Adolph Hitler, and his life and work present no opportunity for sentimentalities. He was a fighter—a fighter for humanity—and it was his mission to proclaim *the gospel of the rights of every nation.* His was the figure of a reformer of the highest rank. It was his historic destiny to live in an era of unparalleled brutality, to which he finally succumbed. This is the view which all ordinary Western Europeans can take of Adolph Hitler. And we, his intimate disciples, bow our heads in face of his death."

The Way in which words are appropriated and propagated in a specialized form and meaning is well illustrated by the growing use of "padre" for chaplains. It came in this wise into the British Army lingo in the days of the East India Company in the eighteenth century. When the British troops took over Portuguese settlements in the East Indies, they picked up and applied to their own chaplains the word they found in use, the Church title applied to the Roman clergy—the Portuguese word "padre," father. In time it became the fixed title in the British service, and seems to be growing in favor among troops of other nationalities coming into contact with British troops, or those operating in the Orient.

The Economic status of the "seeing eye" dog is being imperilled by a new invention. A "radar box" has been

thoroughly and successfully tested by Sir Ian Frazer, chairman of St. Dunstan's Hospital, London, both in the London laboratories of the acoustics expert, Captain H. G. Rounds, and on the public thoroughfares. It can be set to "range-find" at any distance. At that distance the instrument will begin to buzz for any object in the way. At present the "radar box" is cumbrous—a 10-pound tray holding two pieces of electric sound and light apparatus, connected with earphones, and made suitable for deaf as well as blind persons. A model weighing only a pound is expected in the near future.

The California Senate's "Committee on Un-American Activities" took occasion recently, in a report on "Subversive Activities," to condemn the Japanese within her borders because "they have rarely entered into the life of American communities, and that 'little Tokyos' have invariably developed wherever a substantial Japanese population existed." Whose fault was that? And under what kind of treatment? Another question! Is the same condemnation to be imposed upon the little Italys, Germanys, Greeces, Armenias, Russias, etc., that have been established with less reason in many large cities and countrysides? Read this California attitude in the light of an indignant editorial on this report in *Stars and Stripes* (June 3). The battle-log is there given of the 100th Battalion (Japanese-Americans) of the 442d Regimental Combat Team—covering Cassino, Anzio, the Appennines, France. Cited also is its heroic rescue of a battalion of the 36th (Texas) Division that had been cut off by the Germans. Follows this heated comment: "That was a pretty tough assignment, a pretty dirty job in the hands of *Americans* whose families were being beaten up by the families of other lads." It should be noted that by sheer achievement the Japanese-American troops are credited with having won more decorations than any other similar group.

The Broad view of anything is *tabu* at Baylor University, Waco, Texas. The *Houston Chronicle* quotes President Pat N. Neff as telling the graduating class (May 29): "Baylor University has been a narrowminded institution for 100 years, and as long as I'm connected with Baylor it will remain a narrowminded institution. . . . I want to assure the trustees . . . that Baylor is stepping into its second century with no 'isms.' . . . If anything is a threat today, it's broadmindedness." There is here no indication how lofty its ideals are; but even for those who like fenced-in education, Baylor would still not seem to be the place to go for true culture.

India has an educational program which proposes to send 500 students yearly for three years to be instructed in forty of our best graduate schools. Of each group, 100 will be trained in American business and manufacturing concerns, to learn their operations at first hand. India has awakened to the need for the development of industry at home. More than forty subjects will engage the attention of the visiting students in various branches of agriculture, engineering, chemistry, architecture, etc. The Indian government will pay the transportation, tuition and other expenses to the extent of $2,000 for each student. The proposed number of students will likely be largely increased in time, for 13,000 candidates have already applied for the privilege of studying here.

Sweden has sent a three-man delegation to Poland to make arrangements for a major supply of coal. The transaction waits on the settlement of the Warsaw government and the Soviet's decision on her own fuel needs.

Altar Picture in Church House Sanctuary

Presentation by SECRETARY GREEVER and Consecration by PRESIDENT FRY Provide Impressive Period in Executive Board's Meeting

ADDRESSING President Fry, Secretary Greever said:

By the grace of God, this is another day of high privilege for the Unite Lutheran Church. We are here in this beautiful chapel for worship, in connecti with which we are to receive formally, and to dedicate gratefully, another m inspiring and permanent help to all of our future periods of united worship and to the private devotions made possible by this chapel.

It is my privilege to present to the Church, through you, our President, this beautiful masterpiece of art, which most appropriately occupies the place in this chancel for which both it and the chancel itself were designed.

The theme of this painting is "The Giving of the Great Commission." The figure of the Christ gives almost overwhelming emphasis to His words which are around Him: "All power is given unto me . . . Preach, Teach, Baptize, Witness . . . Lo, I am with you alway." The supreme purpose of the crucified, risen, glorified Lord is the supreme task of the Church. The humble position of the adoring disciples represents the unconditional acceptance of the divine commission.

Presentation and Dedication of Altar Paintin by Secretary Greever and President Fry in the Church House Chapel, New York

Artist of International Reputation

This painting is the work of the noted Philadelphia artist, Mr. Nicola D'Ascenzo, who, drawing upon the riches of a lifetime study of sacred subjects, has put into this painting the spirit, as well as the masterful skill, of the true artist. Work on this particular painting has been extended practically over one whole year. During that time the officers of the Church, a special committee in Philadelphia (Drs. Reed, Strodach and Reinartz), the Rev. J. W. Gouker of the Board of Publication, and Mr. T. Norman Mansell, architect, have been in frequent consultation with Mr. D'Ascenzo.

This painting is also a part of t total gift of the generous layman w has provided all of the other beautif furnishings of this chapel, and whos desire to glorify God alone is accor panied by the desire that his nam should not be published.

This presentation is made with t prayer that this painting in this pla may be a daily inspiration to all w look upon it to possess and to exerci the spirit of the apostles for the eva gelization of the world.

As we look upon this painting t words of the poem are apropos:

The Great Commission

When artist's skill has done its best
The Living Saviour to portray,
No hand, nor heart, nor fervent zest
Can more than point, to eye, the way
By which the person of the Lord
Appears in pow'r as Living Word.

A picture will a picture be
However true its concepts prove;
But it can help the soul to see
The beauty, glory and the love
Of Him who seeks in hearts to live,
Transforming grace to freely give.

He bids us praise, and thank and pray,
To hear His Word, to meditate,
To yield our wills, and to obey
His one commission great;
To bear His Word to all mankind
That souls now dead new life may find.

That little band of humble men
Heard His command—to seek and save;
And, asking not the how or when,
Forthwith their all to Jesus gave.
Where'er they went they found Him there;
With promise He foresaw their prayer.

The call is clear. The task is great.
He bids us go to earth's far end,
But first He bids us here to wait
For strength from high which He will send,
That we may preach, teach, live the Word
Which from His lips we've gladly heard.

Proceedings of ULCA's Executive Board

By Sec'y W. H. GREEVER

THE third meeting of the Executive Board was held in the Church House, New York, July 12, 1945.

All members were present throughout the meeting except Mr. J. K. Jensen, who was excused on account of special circumstances.

The reports of the president, secretary, treasurer and officers dealt chiefly with unfinished business and routine matters. The report of the treasurer on receipts on apportionments for the period ending June 30, 1945, will appear in a separate column of THE LUTHERAN.

The last hour and a half of the morning session was given to a special order, for the discussion of such general items as pertained to the work of the Church in general. By request the greater part of the period was used by President Fry in the presentation of an over-all picture of the United Lutheran Church, in its national and international relationships, as it faces the domestic and world problems of these critical times.

An event of the day was the dedication of the new altar painting, which occurred at the worship hour in the chapel. The distinguished artist who executed this beautiful painting, portraying the giving of the Great Commission, was Mr. Nicola D'Ascenzo of Philadelphia. The painting is the gift of the same generous layman who has provided all of the other elegant furnishings of the chapel. The presentation was made by the manager of the Church House, Secretary Greever, and the dedication was by the President of the Church, Dr. Fry.

Pensions for Lay Workers

The reports of the regular committees brought unfinished business up to date, covering a large number of various items. The chief item which was brought to a conclusion was that presented by the Finance Committee dealing with the matter of pensions for lay workers. A plan for such pensions was presented in definite form, and the plan

was approved, in accord with the action of the Minneapolis Convention, which gave the power to approve a plan to the Executive Board. By this action of the Executive Board, the Board of Pensions and Relief is authorized and empowered to inaugurate this plan.

Promotion and Stewardship

A review was made of the present status of Stewardship Promotion and agreement was reached concerning the imperative need for church-wide, vigorous emphasis upon income objectives during the last quarter of this current year. Needs continue to exceed all anticipations.

A review of the history and present status of the Committee of Executive Secretaries involved considerable discussion, resulting in the adoption of the following recommendations:

"1. That the status of the Committee of Executive Secretaries be defined as corresponding to the status of the Conference of Synodical Presidents; *i.e.*, the Committee of Executive Secretaries shall have the right only to make recommendations to the Executive Board.

"Note: The Committee of Executive Secretaries and the Conference of Synodical Presidents are strikingly similar in their composition. Both are primarily composed of highly influential officers of boards or synods who, however, act in these groups not in any official capacity but solely as individuals.

"2. That the Committee of Executive Secretaries shall be constituted as follows: The President and Secretary of the Church, 'the Secretary of Promotion,' the executive secretaries of the eight boards, of the Brotherhood, the Women's Missionary Society and the Luther League of America, the executive director of the Laymen's Movement for Stewardship and the editor of THE LUTHERAN. The Treasurer of the Church shall be an advisory member of this committee, especially to give it financial information and counsel.

"Note: By unanimous action, th committee has formally requested th inclusion of the editor of THE LUTHERA in its membership because of the ob vious and important promotional valu of our official church paper.

"3. That the Committee of Executiv Secretaries determine the places an times of its meetings as in the pas subject only to the right of the Execu tive Board or the officers of the Churc to call the committee into session a special need arises.

"4. That the Committee of Executive Secretaries normally be expected to in itiate promotional plans for the Churc and to carry out such plans after ap proval by the Executive Board.

Authority Over Funds

"5. That the Treasurer of the Churc be authorized to open one or more ac counts in connection with the Execu tive Board Treasury, the number o accounts to be decided by the Treas urer, to receive and disburse th moneys heretofore handled by th treasury of the Committee of Executiv Secretaries; and that the treasurer o the Committee of Executive Secretarie be requested to transmit all funds no in its treasury to the Treasurer of th Church and so to close his books."

The Executive Board approved plan submitted by the Executive Committee of the National Lutheran Council by which there can be general participation by church people in the effor of the Church Committee on Oversea Relief and Reconstruction to send Christmas packages to Europe and other parts of the suffering world. The approval of the plan includes authority to the CCORR to use the clerical mailing list of the ULCA for the presentation of particulars.

Elections to various boards and agencies resulted as follows:

(*Continued on page 21*)

MARITAL TRAGEDIES

Chaplain F. W. KORBITZ Describes Experiences Encountered in the "Line of Duty"

[This war has given Chaplain F. W. Korbitz ample opportunity to put into practice his training in psychiatry. Before he was assigned to Continental Enclosure No. 23, where he dealt with prisoners of war, he was stationed in England. In a letter to a representative of the General Commission on Army and Navy Chaplains, Washington, D. C., he has described some unusual experiences of persons to whom the war has brought its tragedy.]

In 1942 I was assigned to the first Psychiatric Hospital unit, destined at that time to be sent to England. The first patients we received were from the sea battle at Oran. Being the only chaplain available, I had to arrange for proper services of all faiths, and do the welfare work for personnel and patients, since there was no Red Cross unit attached or even near the hospital at that time.

After five months I was transferred to one of the larger General Hospitals in England. With this group I was privileged to share for some 18 months many pleasant experiences. On New Year's Day, 1944, I was called into the Women's Ward by the nurse on duty. A patient, a WAC, was terribly upset about something, and wanted to see the chaplain.

The Story of a WAC

In brief this is the story: This young lady living in a western town, according to her own words, joined the WAC organization in the hope that she might be sent to Australia to be near her fiance, a major, who was a pilot in the Pacific. During her training, news came that he was missing. She and his parents kept writing to him until the War Department declared him legally "dead."

Having no further desire to go to Australia, this WAC was sent with a group to England and was attached to a Fighter Command. Here she later met and married a sergeant of that organization. About three months had elapsed after their marriage, when on New Year's Day she sent for me. She had received a letter postmarked Australia, from this same major who had been declared "dead." For a year he had been wandering about in the jungles, and finally found his way back to Australia, where he also received a huge stack of mail. He expressed his delight in being alive and having a loyal fiancee who kept writing even though he did not write for such a long time. Little did he know that his fiancee was now married and that he had been declared legally "dead." What was this distressed young woman to do? Her resurrected fiance was going back to his home town and so was she, while her sergeant husband was to remain in England.

I prayed over the matter that night and promised to bring a sample letter to her the next day, from which she might cull some things to write to the major. She told me later that it proved helpful and that she utilized most of that letter and that her mind was now at ease. She remained the wife of the sergeant and the major understood.

A Woman's Courage

Just previous to the above-mentioned experience, a lieutenant of the Air Corps was brought into our hospital so very badly frostbitten that he hovered between life and death for several days. The lieutenant's home was in Illinois, while his wife was from Kansas. At the request of the lieu-

(*Continued on page* 19)

OUR GOSPEL AND THE MODERN JEW

Excerpts from an Article by JOHN STUART CONNING in "Our Jewish Neighbors' Press Service"

In spite of ingrained prejudice, secularism, and other difficulties of many kinds, Jews do become Christians—hundreds of them. Many enter into the membership of Christian churches quietly and inconspicuously, to share in their fellowship and activities without fanfare of any kind. Only occasionally, when the convert holds a prominent position, does the change of faith attract any special attention, as when Prof. Israele Anton Zolli, Grand Rabbi of Rome, was within recent weeks baptized into the Christian faith.

As churches keep no record of the racial or religious backgrounds of their members, no definite account can be given of the number of Jews who have publicly professed the faith of Christ. But it is conservatively estimated that more than 100,000 are now included in the membership of the Christian churches of the United States and Canada. Of these, there are in the various Protestant churches 145 ministers, and in addition two bishops and seven professors in colleges and seminaries. In a few communities, Jewish converts have been organized into denominational churches. One New York City church has organized an interdenominational work for refugees, in which many Jews have found a welcome and fellowship. The pastor of this group, within the past four or five years, has introduced one hundred or more Jewish refugees into membership of various churches.

When we ask what led all these Jews to profess their faith in Christ, we find that for the vast majority the preliminary step was contact with some sincere Christian, whose sympathy and kindness so fully expressed the spirit of the Gospel that the heart of the Jewish friend was opened to consider its message. Jewish prejudices run de and there is only one sure alembic which they can be dissolved, and th is the love which Christ inspires in t hearts of His followers. Jews have ke minds, and can meet argument w argument. But when the heart h been opened there are various aspe of the Gospel that make a power appeal to Jews.

Their Fathers' Faith Our Legacy

The Jews are always deeply i pressed with the fact that the faith Christ does not separate them from t ancient faith or the past of their pe ple. The new covenant is rooted in t old. The new—as it has been admi ably expressed—is simply the o "come to blossom and fruit." A wel known Jewish rabbi said to me on o occasion, as a protest against efforts b ing made to share the Gospel with h people: "Do you really want us to gi up the faith of our fathers, with i divine sanctions, its priceless heritag and all its sacred associations?" which I replied: "No, doctor, I do n ask you to give up anything. Much your heritage is also mine. Your scri tures are an essential part of my ow All I ask of you is that you go forwa to a realization of all that is promise and implied in your own faith."

That in the Gospel which makes th most powerful appeal to Jews is th person of Christ Himself. Unfortun ately, prejudice, tradition, and the un happy relations between Jews an Christians in the past have hidden th face of Christ from His own people But here in America, in the midst of civilization so largely shaped by Hi influence, all Jews have come to kno something about Him. And the mor

they really know, the more they lose their traditional prejudices. Many Jews today read the New Testament, in whole or in part. There they discover that Jesus was not only a Jew, but the noblest Jew of whom they have heard.

Hear what a few of these Jewish readers of the Gospels say. Gustav Lazlo declares: "Christ is the only leader that can take us anywhere worth going to." John Cournos, the journalist, testifies: "Christ is our own, our very own. He is our prophet, our greatest prophet, the keystone of our ultimate faith." Waldo Frank, the brilliant Jewish author, affirms: "The finest personal flower of Jewish wisdom is Jesus." And Sholem Asch, the author of *The Nazarene,* says: "I couldn't help writing on Jesus. Since I first met Him, He has held my mind and heart." And these are only four voices from a multitude. Yes, Jesus has a mighty appeal for Jews, and every pastor who has the opportunity should count it a high privilege to make Him known to His Jewish neighbors.

Found in the Christian's Gospel

There must also be included in the Gospel for modern Jews the assurance of a richer and more vital religious experience than any they have known in connection with the ancient faith. The testimony of Jews themselves is an overwhelming demonstration to this fact. As a young pastor, I asked the first Jew received into the membership of my church: "What have you found in the Christian faith that you did not find in the Jewish religion?" The reply was: "I have found in Christ a sense of divine pardon and a peace I had never known before. Somehow Christ has made God very real to me, and I now know Him as my heavenly Father. And what keeps me always happy is to know that Christ is always with me to help me to live a better life."

Contact since with many Christian Jews deepens my conviction that the response of Jews to the Gospel is no mere intellectual assent to His claims, but a transforming experience that makes all things new. As Sholem Asch expresses it: "When you understand Jesus, you understand that He came to save *you,* to come into your personality. It isn't just a case of a misty, uncertain relationship between a worshiper and an unseen God: that is abstract; Jesus is personal!"

Emergency Federal Aid to Educational Institutions

CONGRESSMAN Barden of Virginia has prepared a bill which follows closely the recommendations of a special advisory committee to the House of Representatives' Committee on Education. It would grant financial relief to the institutions of higher education whose enrollment has dropped to less than 60 percent of their normal pre-war enrollment. On behalf of the Church-related colleges of America, Dr. Gould Wickey appeared before the committee presenting the valiant service which these colleges have rendered their country both in peace and war, and indicating the great financial suffering experienced during the war years. The income from students has been reduced more than 50 percent.

"By principle," Dr. Wickey declared, "I am opposed to any program which uses the Government as a cow to be milked; and I want to protect the Government against the omnipresent money-grabber. The proposal will aid only those schools that seek aid and that are able to meet certain desirable conditions. These colleges enlarge the vision, broaden the knowledge of all peoples, and strengthen the will to fulfill moral and spiritual purposes. Financial aid to such colleges is an investment which pays big dividends."

HAPPENINGS IN THE HOME

By Earl S. Rudis

CHILD DEVELOPMENT

● Our little boy is two and a half years old. He is too young to let run around over the neighborhood at will, especially because of the heavy traffic on our street. Furthermore, there are no children of his age very close to us. The boys and girls for a little distance around us are too old for him. His father and I are almost his only companions. I wish there were some way for him to know other people for the sake of his own development.

EVERY child needs contacts with people other than his father and mother. Up to the age of this little fellow the possibilities of his "socialization" have been small. He was not ready for very much, for he has been going through an individualistic age. But he is now arriving at a point where he will be increasingly able to mix with other children and profit by the experience.

In order to foster his development you could invite other children into your home. Perhaps a few could come themselves, but more will be dependent upon being brought by their parents. Do you not have a number of friends in your own neighborhood who have small children? Why not cultivate a closer association with them?

Furthermore, not all association needs to be with children. You are probably overlooking some other opportunities. Have you helped him to know the man who brings the milk? How about the postman? The carpenter who may come to mend a roof or a window could also be a means to broadening his outlook. Then there are the pastor, the Sunday school teacher, and relatives, if any of your relatives live in the community. Like many other problems, this one may be met pretty well by using the opp tunities which are already coming y way, and by using your resourcefuln and tact in creating helpful situatio

While encouraging acquaintance w adults, I should also discourage idea that a number of adult associa will suffice. Time and time again comes upon a little boy or girl wh only company consists of grown-u The child uses the manner and voca ulary of adults. Because of his ad ways and words adults come to beli that the child is unusually advanced his age, that he is "bright," that he "so grown-up." This is a mistaken i terpretation; the youngster is simp doing the only thing he can do. He reflecting the environment in whi he lives, and the exclusively adult e vironment may prove a hindrance his advancement, though over a peri of years it is not likely to be a serio handicap. Later child companions w help him catch up in his learning.

CULTIVATE SOCIAL CONTACTS

● I am a young woman living far fr the home of my parents. I am in a la city and live in a very nice small boardi house in the heart of the city. I enjoy m work fairly well, for I work in a large o fice with many girls and a very few me The men are decidedly of the older ty and have their families. While things a rather pleasant in the office, when I back to my room I am extremely lone Most of the girls in the office live wi their parents here in the city and ha their own social circle. I have very lit chance to make real friends. It is ju about impossible to make any frien among young men, and I say, with a reasonableness, that I am interested

meeting young men as well as young women. It seems that in this job one is condemned to a lonely life, with very little hope of finding a mate of the right kind. What is one in my position to do?

YOUR situation is typical of the position of many young women, and under peacetime conditions, of many young men also. To a less extent it is true of young people who live in their parental homes. Naturally, the number of young men available as friends and companions today is very limited. With the coming of peace the supply will be greatly increased. But, surrounded by the immediate conditions which you have mentioned, your opportunities for association may not be very much improved. Let me suggest that you immediately begin to take more initiative in making contacts with people in general. Find a church which you can attend regularly, and be willing to go more than half-way to make acquaintances with people. Get into one or more of the auxiliaries. If you are not already qualified to teach in the church school, prepare yourself. Let it be known to the pastor of the church that you are interested in doing church work and in making friends. And there may be other groups to which your church friends may introduce you. In order to meet young men and young women you must go where they are.

It may be added that social psychologists have long been pointing out two requirements in order to meet the need which you have indicated. The first need is that churches and other groups furnish more opportunity for social occasions in order that young men and young women may more readily meet congenial companions under favorable auspices. Matters of this sort have too frequently been laughed off and regarded as of no importance. They are serious matters. The second requirement is a changed attitude toward courtship and proposals which would permit a young woman to take the initiative instead of remaining passive until approached by a young man. From the latter suggestion many people recoil, but the change is very gradually taking place.

SUCCESS OF CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE

● **In a couples' club the question has several times comes up as to how far a husband and wife can each have his own way. What rules should there be?**

CHRISTIAN marriage is not made to succeed by having rules. Personalities are more important than rules, more important even than principles, for principles exist for persons.

Many features figure in achieving the largest possible measure of freedom and satisfaction within the marriage bond. Three of them may be mentioned.

1. Unless husband and wife are bound together by strong devotion other qualities will not assure successful or happy marriage. Compromise is essential in married life, as it is in all other phases of living. Giving in to one's partner is a result of love for him or her. But unless the devotion is mutual, one person may easily sacrifice self to no avail. No worthy person will permit the object of his affection to become a doormat for him. On the other hand, he will go to great lengths to accommodate himself to the desires, purposes, and needs of the other, for "love suffereth long."

2. A lively imagination also is needed. Mercy, good will, sacrifice, and service are inspired by one's ability to put himself in the place of the other. If one has little imagination he can hardly do this. Imagination is a highly valuable gift, and in the case of many people it seems to be very weak.

3. Another factor which facilitates a maximum of freedom within marital unity is a will to harmony. It is frequently wise to exercise this power for the welfare of self, one's spouse, the family, and society.

NEW ANGLE—The Lathrops' Neighbors Find a Friend in Need

JOAN didn't know I could see her examining herself in the hall mirror. She smoothed the collar of her Girl Scout uniform carefully, adjusting the neckerchief so that the ends fell just right. Apparently the angle of the beret did not quite suit her, for she tried tilting it on the other side. She frowned at her reflection and settled the beret on the exact center of her crown.

"Like that better?" I asked.

Joan jumped and grinned. Then she must have remembered something she'd seen, for she glanced over her shoulder in what seemed an attempt at sophistication. "Can't blame a girl for trying, can you?"

As she turned back to the mirror, her gaze was arrested at the screen door. Sophistication forgotten, she yelled, "Molly!" in a most unladylike tone. Zooming out the door in the wake of her voice, she called, "There's no one at the church yet. I haven't even packed my lunch yet. Come in."

Molly seemed to need no urging. She tagged obediently after Joan. Nor did she seem to object when Joan demanded an inventory of her lunch box.

"Fine," Joan approved. "You have two plums. I'll take two peaches, and we can each have one of each."

"O. K." If Molly saw nothing high-handed in Joan's assumption that they would share their lunch, who was I to point out such a thing to my daughter's friends?

"Go out on the porch, Molly, and see whether the rest are coming." Good-natured Molly went. I followed her, taking the knitting I wanted to finish for the Red Cross before we went on our vacation. Molly settled herself on the top step.

"Pastor Lathrop is away, isn't he?"

"Yes, he's gone to hear some lecture... Joan and I are going to meet him a... Joan's grandmother's next week."

"Mark's away, too. Must seem lone-some with just you and Joan."

"It's not very nice to have the famil... going off in different directions, bu... Joan and I have been too busy to b... lonely. Do I see Mary and Kath... coming?"

"Hey, Mary! Hey, Kathy!" Moll... burst out with all the subtle charm o... a public address system suddenl... turned high. Two little girls came t... an abrupt halt and made a fresh star... in our direction. Soon the whole fron... porch was swarming with green-cla... girls of all sizes and shapes. Then wit... a sudden, "There's Butch," they a... raced off to meet Mrs. Bucher, who ha... come from the church seeking them.

"You look just like the girls, in you... uniform," I called to her.

"Hello, there, Mrs. Lathrop. I wa... so busy talking to these wild Indians... I never saw you. I'm afraid I only lool... like the girls when you're too far awa... to see my gray hairs. Guess that's wh... I let them call me Butch. Makes m... feel younger."

We chatted for a few minutes. The... troop seized lunch boxes and pape... bags. They were off.

At the foot of our walk, Joan turned... back swiftly. She ran up to me and... began speaking from the side of he... mouth, a mannerism meant to indicate... secrecy. "Don't let her see you, look-ing, but Mrs. Haines just went in Mrs... Flint's house, and Davy says his mother... and Mrs. Haines don't like each other."

"You little gossip," I shook her hal... in amusement, half in exasperation... "run on with your friends and tend t... your own affairs."

She laughed and kissed me. "Just had to kiss you goodby," she remarked loudly for the benefit of Molly, who had turned back to wait for her. "Come on, Molly."

In spite of my rebuke to Joan, I found myself looking at the houses across the street. No one could be seen. Joan had probably imagined her great discovery. If only Jerry were here, we'd have a good laugh over our failure to keep anything from little Miss Sherlock. We'd been so careful never to mention the Flint-Haines feud before either of the children; but she'd picked it up from Davy Flint.

I went about my housework rather mechanically, my mind on our neighbors. I kept wondering whether we had done anything we ought not to have done, or left undone anything we should have done to make things smoother. I thought back to my first meeting with Mrs. Flint the day Mrs. Haines had simply pestered her into coming to our spring tea. I remembered her quiet but consistent refusal to accept further invitations to church affairs. That was when Mrs. Haines began her whispering campaign. "Who is Mr. Flint?" began to go the rounds of the neighborhood.

Finally Jerry had had the whole story from Mrs. Flint herself. An unhappy marriage. A quarrel just before Mr. Flint—I never knew his rank—went overseas and did not come back. Mrs. Flint had felt that she had things to settle in her own mind before she could take part in the life of a church, and Mrs. Haines' gossiping had made ours especially distasteful.

Jerry was sympathetic, of course, and thought that time would make matters better. I smiled, remembering the day Mrs. Flint had asked him to speak to Mrs. Haines, call her off the scent. The upshot of the interview was that he did speak to Mrs. Haines quite forcibly; but not before he had advised her neighbor to be less sensitive. Since then all our contacts had been courteous, but distant on her part. Davy had hung around Mark, as a younger boy will trail an older one. Now it seemed that he had made a confidante of Joan.

I felt sorry for the poor little chap—and for his mother—but I couldn't see that there was anything I could do for her. She'd have to find her own way.

So many times in the years that have passed Jerry and I have wished we could reach into someone's mind and soul and set things right. Yet even when you are sure, or almost sure, what is right for that person, there's so little you can do but love and pray.

I was lost in the past, when the doorbell rang. Young Davy Flint stood at the door.

"Please, Mrs. Lathrop, may I borrow your invalid tray for my mother? She's sick, and the doctor thinks she'll have to stay in bed quite a while, and Mrs. Haines said your tray would be a big help." I didn't stop then to wonder how Mrs. Haines knew we had one. I must have mentioned it quite casually sometime and she had filed the fact away for future reference.

I hauled the tray out of a closet.

"Here you are, Davy. We haven't used it since Mark had the measles, but I washed it with an antiseptic when I put it away, so I don't think it can give measles to your mother. I'm sorry to hear she's sick."

"She's pretty sick, I guess. She fainted in the garden this morning, and Mrs. Haines came over and brought her around and got her into bed and called the doctor. You know, Mrs. Haines is certainly nice to us. She's brought a lot of things over from her own house—I'll bet she's made five or six trips." And Joan had only seen her once. My detective daughter must be slipping. "And she's going to stay with mother as long as she needs her. She's nice."

"Of course, she is," I agreed, and meant it.

TEXTS AND COMMENTS

—By J. WILLIAM McCAULEY

SALVATION

Read I Corinthians 15:1-10; Luke 18:9-14

SALVATION from military aggression, forced labor, prison camps, starvation, and despair is being gained at the cost of countless lives and untold wealth. Salvation from hate and revenge, selfishness and jealousy will demand more than human sacrifice and effort. Only God the Almighty and All-merciful is able to eradicate the root-evils from which issue war and misery. His salvation includes both the body and spirit. With confidence beyond that in material might and human effort, the spiritual man confesses with Jonah, "Salvation is of Jehovah"; with Isaiah, "Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid"; and with David, "My soul waiteth in silence for God: from Him cometh my salvation."

Sing ye to Jehovah, for he hath triumphed gloriously; The horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea. Exodus 15:21.

FROM SIN AND DEATH. When a Japanese submarine crew forced 55 American survivors of a sunken Liberty ship to run the gauntlet between a double row of steel stanchions and then killed them one by one as they attempted to jump overboard, it was cruelty beyond that of usual warfare. When Miriam, the sister of Moses, sang jubilantly of the destruction of Pharaoh's hosts in the Red Sea, it was not in the spirit of cruel revenge but of triumphant faith. The Egyptians were in reality their own destroyers, for they were drowned while pursuing the Israelites with a view to killing or enslaving them after promising deliverance from slavery. God's salvation is from spiritual death and the power of sin. It is possible only by the redemption of God's Son.

For as in Adam all die, so also in Chr shall all be made alive. I Corinthia 15:22.

TO FREEDOM AND LIFE. "Some fo don't look up until they are flat on the backs." They can see the stars ar heaven better when they lie prostra The low tide that brings one's boat ebb level lifts it thence on high tide life's full flow. The grave becomes t gateway to "God's acres" of Paradis Freedom from sin and its consequenc comes only when the positive power Christ's resurrection is applied and H angels open the trail to heaven by rol ing away whatever stone is in faith's way and sitting upon it exultantly. Sa vation becomes an eternal status be cause it became through Christ's cro the lever to lift men to Himself and t life everlasting.

Therefore with joy shall ye draw wat out of the wells of salvation. Isaiah 12:

BY GRACE. The wells of Abraha and Isaac at Beersheba, of Jacob a Sychar, and of Paton on an island o the New Hebrides were waters of sal vation for those who dug by faith. Th stream of grace pictured in Ezekiel' vision and portrayed by Jesus flow from beneath God's throne dow through the ages with widening reache and never-failing blessings, to satisf all who stoop humbly and drink. "Fo the grace of God hath appeared, bring ing salvation." "I will take the cup o salvation," said the Psalmist—but hav ing received of its life-giving potion God's grace should be passed on b the recipient to save others who thirst

Believe on the Lord Jesus, and thou shalt be saved, thou and thy house. Acts 16:31.

THROUGH FAITH AND PRAYER. For 34 days three fliers from a disabled

bomber drifted helplessly on a rubber raft in the vast Pacific. Hungry and despairing, Gene, the radio-man, timidly suggested that they "say a prayer." After waiting in vain for an answer, Tony chided, "Now we done all we could," and challenged, "Well, come on, rain!" But the one suggesting prayer remarked almost as dubiously, "Gee, let's give it a chance!" How different from such half-hearted praying was the dead-in-earnest plea of the Philippian jailer, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" and the confident reply of Paul and Silas, "*Believe* on the *Lord Jesus* and thou shalt be saved, thou and thy house!"

For he must reign, till he hath put all his enemies under his feet. I Corinthians 15:25.

With Ultimate Triumph. In the spirit of the crusader, the late President Roosevelt said, "We are fighting not for ourselves but for all men." Concerning the world-embracing duty of the church these crucial days a pastor said, "The world is too full of universal interest and obligation for us to remain in the shell of our local congregation. . . . This is the greatest time since St. Paul lived to sow the world down with Christian religion and love. It is missions now, or massacre later." Despite man's passionate devotion to destruction and to war as "the only enterprise that wins his complete ardor," we have the promise that "all flesh shall see the salvation of God"—for "whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

"Lord, we cry to Thee for help:
Only Thou canst heal our pain;
Out of deep distress we call:
O send us, Lord, send peace again.

"Lord, exalt Thy holy name,
Conquer evil by Thy power,
Let Thy righteous will prevail,
And reign victorious evermore." Amen.

Marital Tragedies

(*Continued from page* 11)

tenant I wrote a letter to his wife explaining how, as a result of severe frostbite, he had lost all his fingers, the tips of his toes, one eye, both ears and his nose. Flesh grafting was done quite successfully before he left the hospital, but it was necessary to provide him with a plastic nose and ears.

The day came when he was to be evacuated to the States, and there was quite a discussion among the doctor, the nurse, and myself as to whether it was right for a person in such a condition to be returned to a beautiful young wife of twenty-one years to spend the rest of her married life with the sight of one so maimed. What I told the medic was endorsed by the nurse—that we often fail to appreciate the courage of many of our heroic Christian women. Allow me to give you an insight into the heart and courage of this Christian young wife. She writes in brief as follows: "First of all, let me thank you very much for your letter. I know you helped my husband. I don't believe I have to tell you, Chaplain, what my husband means to me. How grateful I am to God for his life. I am so eager to have him near me so that I might help him face—whatever it is!"

The day the lieutenant came to the States and the doctor of his ward was present, the lieutenant's wife was brought into the room to face her husband for the first time. There was a tension present, as all were wondering what effect this sight would have upon her She greeted all present and walked up to her husband, embraced him, and then said in substance: "Gentlemen, I have married a man and not a face." This story was told to me my the medic upon his return, and he said he was won over to our way of thinking regarding the courage of most women.

Across the Desk

We hasten to acknowledge an error in a previous issue of which we learned by the kindness of a reader. The Methodist prelate to whom is due the credit for establishing Chautauqua and the educational movement known by that name was Bishop Vincent and not Bishop Simpson.

LAY PENSION RECOGNITION

Among the items of business to which the Executive Board of the United Lutheran Church gave extended attention at its meeting in July was the report of the Finance Committee under the heading, "Lay Pension Plan of the United Lutheran Church in America." It is an enterprise on the part of our Church of which the need has been felt for several years. The provision for clergymen goes back to 1928: in constituent portions of the ULCA, Ministerial Pensions and Relief were administered even before the merger, but for lay workers no participation was arranged, although numerous examples of long and efficient service could be found in many synods and in congregations. In practically every major agency, full-time service for long periods has been enjoyed.

This oversight came aggressively to the Church's notice after the passage of the Wagner Act had placed the United States government in support of Workmen's Compensation, Old Age Insurance, and other benefits to the people. But the employees of corporations "not for gain," among which are congregations and other ecclesiastical institutions, are not beneficiaries of this act. It is to correct this omission that our Church directed its Board of Pensions to operate a "contributory pension" beginning January 1, 1945.

The Lutheran will deal in more detail with this matter in a future issue when a communication from the chairman of the Finance Committee, Mr. William H. Stackel, will instruct our readers. It concerns all who "shall be lay employees of the United Lutheran Church in America, its constituent synods, boards, agencies, institutions and congregations who are enrolled as members by their respective employers under terms of agreement between the employers and the Pension Board."

"QUESTION" CALLED

In its issue under date of July 3, the *Lutheran Witness,* official organ in English of the Missouri Synod, has an editorial piece under the heading, "Lutherans in Conference." The writer is the learned Dr. Theodore Graebner and the occasion of his reference we infer is the deliberations in progress among the Lutherans of the Dominion of Canada to form a Lutheran Church of Canada. Representatives of all the Lutherans in that area are participating in these meetings. There might also be in the editor's mind that project of Portland, Oregon, and its vicinity which calls for inter-Lutheran co-operation resembling what would occur under formal organization.

It can also be cited that the Missouri Synod for more than a biennium has been encouraging its pastors and laymen to meet in conferences with pastors of other Lutheran bodies and has gone so far as to authorize prayer fellowship at such gatherings. The news reports from some of these discussions declare them to have manifested a degree of orthodox Lutheranism on the part of ULCA representatives that sur-

prised those speaking for other bodies.

Dr. Graebner states in the editorial to which we have made reference that he is reminded of the conferences which were held during the "fifties" of the last century and he quotes the call to one which was issued for October 1, 1846, and held in Columbus, Ohio. We read his quotation with a combination of reactions. The first was admiration for an editor whose mechanism of reminders can function over so prolonged a period of time. Then we acknowledge with great reluctance the intruding suspicion that the divine blessing could not have rested upon that conference and others later, unless the repeated failures to bring to pass their purposes is to be interpreted as meaning that Lutherans have not yet reached a sufficient degree of consecration to the Kingdom of God to be granted divine approval to engage in an "all out" attack on the unbelief and evil in the midst of which we are.

It can also be proposed as an explanation of the delayed arrival of that for which we are all praying, that we lack the courage that is bred by confidence in our own convictions. There is much conversation and many informal conferences at which greater unity is strongly advocated. Yet when the representatives of the churches are in convention assembled the forebodings of a few silence the confidence of the many.

Somewhat as a test of that conclusion, the editor of THE LUTHERAN, quite unofficially but very seriously, suggests to the editor of the *Lutheran Witness* that a period of six months, the last three of 1945 and the first three of 1946 be formally devoted to conferences among us with the purpose and expectation that the Lutheran churches in America will indicate that it is time to call for The Question, and put the matter at issue to a vote by those concerned and competent to decide.

We propose for further consideration that the Executive Committees of the several General Bodies each designate for its General Body a person to be a member of a Committee on Ways and Means, which committee shall confer and draft an agreement of union. This document should be in form to be considered for adoption by duly authorized and empowered delegates to a convention called to meet Tuesday, October 1, 1946, and be in the nature of a centennial meeting.

It is obvious that present interests and obligations of the Lutherans in the United States and Canada justify the call in each of our conventions of "Question." A hundred years of argument can have only two results, agreement or impossibility of agreement. One or the other should "end debate" among us.

Proceedings of ULCA's Executive Board

(*Continued from page* 10)

Board of Education

The Rev. Paul L. Wetzler, Minneapolis, Minn., was elected to fill the vacancy created by the death of the Rev. John I. Meck, Racine, Wis., term expiring 1946.

Board of Social Missions

The Rev. R. H. Gerberding, Minneapolis, Minn., was elected to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of the Rev. G. Morris Smith, Selinsgrove, Pa., term expiring 1946, and the Rev. Harold H. Lentz, Ashland, Ohio, to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of the Rev. Louis Sittler, term expiring 1946.

Parish and Church School Board

Mr. Floyd L. Arbogast of Lewisburg, Pa., was elected to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Mr. Charles A. Scheuringer, term expiring 1948.

The Mother Interferes

By Nathan R. Melhorn

Rebekah Gains Isaac's Blessing for Jacob by Deception

Sunday School Lesson for August 19—Genesis 28:10-22. Chapters 27 and 28

THE weight of an accepted custom sometimes gives occasion for strange even There was, for example, among the Hebrews a custom of determining who should the heirs of an estate, through instructions given by the testator to the next of kin a conversation. Such instruction had the standing of our modern "last will and testament." It ranked as the direction for the transfer of the ownership of an estate Descriptions found in the Old Testament lead one to conclude that the Hebrews accepted the primacy of verbal appointments to heirship, even though the legality of the succession and the worthiness of legatees left much to be desired.

In the case of Isaac, the disposition of his wealth was complicated by the fact that twins had been born of Rebekah, his wife, and of these two brothers, Esau, born first, was by tradition the rightful heir. But this first of the pair was not "gifted" to carry on the destiny which God had assigned to the chosen people. Esau had already exhibited the incapacity of character which proved him to be inadequate, by selling his birthright to his brother, Jacob, for a "mess of pottage." By disposition he was averse to accepting the labor required to develop a roving tribe into a great nation established in the Jordan valley. His preferences were for hunting and moving about.

Jacob Competent for the Time

What was the reason, and what were the causes of the superior talent of Jacob, the younger twin, we are not told. There is the evidence of personal observations that inequality of ability is an almost universal characteristic of families. Where under the old laws of primogeniture an estate went to the eldest son, it was often dissipated under careless or extravagant management, while a younger brother without any participation in his father's wealth, and therefore "on his own," grew into an influential citizen, and in time succeeded the legal heir. There are also instances of a transfer of the inheritance in some instances, by the aid of fraud and crime.

The failing faculties of the parent sometimes make manipulation of the family's wealth and influence easy of performance. The Genesis narrative comments on the state of Isaac's faculties of perception when he sent his son, Esau, to go hunting for venison, that this happened "when Isaac was old and his eyes were dim, so that he could not see."

Rebekah Takes a Hand

But there was a "third party" to this transaction whose participation was decisive. We violate no principle of interpretation by assuming that Rebekah was a keen and sincerely interested observer of the interactions of her trio of menfolk, that is, her husband and the two sons. Either Jacob or Esau could have informed her of the birthright bargain, and it is stated that she overheard Isaac's commission to Esau and the promise of *the blessing* as a reward.

Also within her assured knowledge was the promise that made the son of herself and Isaac the father of a great nation. She, even more definitely than her husband, could easily reach the conclusion that Jacob could meet the requirements of that destiny while Esau lacked the vision, capacity and perseverance which were

needed. She pursued the course of an intelligent woman for a family of her period and place: she took advantage of her husband's inadequate perception of his responsibilities to his God, and put the mission of the posterity of Isaac where it belonged. Her plan worked, though its injustice cost Jacob the endangerment of his life at the hands of his enraged brother and much uneasiness of conscience.

The sentence from Luther's Catechism is in order: "The good and gracious will of God is done indeed without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may be done by us also." The accomplishment of that undertaking which God began with the call of Abraham and the covenant with him, were not uncertain of reaching their fulfillment in the incarnation of God's only begotten Son. Blessed are all whose privilege it has been to contribute to that infinitely blessed enterprise. Some, however, refuse their co-operation and others must take their places. God takes care that those "others" are on hand when their opportunity arrives. "There are no contingencies with God."

DAILY BIBLE READINGS
August 13-19

M. Isaac Blesses Jacob. Genesis 28:1-5.
T. At Night-time. Genesis 28:10-16.
W. Jacob's Vow to God. Genesis 28:18-22.
Th. Walking in the Light. I John 2:7-11.
F. Abiding in Christ. John 15:1-7.
Sat. God Our Deliverer. Psalm 34:1-7.
S. God Our Refuge. Psalm 46:1-7.

News and Views on Our Sunday Schools

Our Sunday schools are now using the fourth quarter of the first year of the new Christian Growth Series. This time last year conferences were being held all over the church to help our workers introduce and use the new lessons. As the year ends, what have been our schools' reactions?

The answer can be given in three words —*Almost Universally Good.* Of course, there are a few who find things that they do not like. A very few do not like the series at all. But almost everyone is pleased. This is true in the other two church bodies—the American Lutheran Church and the Augustana Synod—as well.

Some Comments

Here are a few comments from letters, meetings in the field, and personal conferences: "Our teachers can't speak too highly of the materials." "We are well impressed with the Christian Growth Series" (from a Canadian correspondent). "We received the new literature this week and . . . . should be so thankful to God for having inspired the writers and editors and artists to produce such inspirational, enlightening, and helpful educational material. It is really wonderful." "It is causing more Bible study than we have ever had." "The pictures are striking and beautiful." "The pupils show more interest since introducing the Series."

The Schedule

Several times during the year we have not been able to keep up to schedule. This has meant that schools have been late in receiving their literature. We are now on time, and the first quarter for the second year will come to you soon. It has been a hard pull in war times; but we are on schedule and we hope to keep there.

Can We Introduce the Series Now?

Letters are now being received from schools which did not begin last year, asking if the Series can be introduced in October. The answer is, *Yes.* Of course, new schools will begin with the first quarter of the second year. That raises no problems. In fact, only the materials for the second year will be available for the coming year. We invite you to join us.

Teaching Thoughts for August 19, 1945

1. God is where you spend your vacation, too. You haven't left Him back home.

2. Running away from obligations is not running away from God.

3. Your pillow may be rocky, but if God is there you will sleep well.

THE YOUNG PEOPLE

By Amos John Traver

THE POWER OF HABIT—Philippians 4:8, 9

THE word *habit* is related to the verb *to have*. It has two quite different meanings. It might mean the dress or costume one wears. We speak of a riding habit. In our topic it means the tendency to think or act in a certain way. When we have thought or acted after a pattern so often that we do so unconsciously we have developed a habit.

A Time Saver

Habits are a great help to us. If we had to stop to think about everything that we do, no day would be long enough. An efficient life is pretty much guided by routines. Habits of self-discipline, of industry, of promptness, of unselfishness, of cleanliness—all these make unnecessary the calling of a conference with oneself, in which the pros and cons are discussed and conclusions finally reached. Time means more than money: it means lives.

Many years ago I was attending a summer training school in the south, and on a picnic at a small lake there was a near tragedy. One of the boys who could not swim well waded into the water with a girl on his shoulders. As he came to deeper water the girl became panic stricken and clutched him around his neck and both went under. On a diving raft near where I was standing a young lad of teen age, taking in the situation at a glance, dived in, and after a long, swift swim broke the hold of the girl and pulled her out. The boy could swim well enough to take care of himself. That lad was a boy scout and had passed all the tests for junior life-saver. He had drilled through imaginary situations like this many, many times. His decision was almost instantaneous, and habit prevented the loss of a single moment.

The end of the story is not essential to the point, but interesting. The story came to the attention of the Carnegie Foundation, and the young hero received a medal and a scholarship making possible a fine medical course. He is a successful physician now.

Habit and Learning

"The child who learns to write, or figure or recite; the girl who learns to sew or knit; the boy who learns to throw a baseball or to shoot; the woman who falls in love; the man who makes a decision upon which may hang the happiness of many people—all are able to do what they do because of this law" (From Dr. Luther A. Weigle's "Talks to Sunday School Teachers"). The fact is, that with the exception of a few inborn inheritances, *all* we know was acquired by habit.

The student who comes into our theological seminaries is a good student or a weak one, because of habits of study acquired through long years of school. One can learn good penmanship: I never did. I was always in too much of a hurry to write well. I have some of my writing dating from my teen age. Poorly formed letters, smudgy erasures, some perfectly beautiful(?) finger prints, letters run together to avoid the trouble of correcting spelling, lines crooked. Today, these many years later, I still do my friends a great favor by writing to them on a typewriter.

I have a boyhood chum with whom I exchange a letter now and then. His writing is clean-cut, legible, with every letter precise and well made. As a boy I used to think he was too careful. But habits of writing have grown with him as with me. They have carried down through the years. They illustrate the principle of all learn-

ing. If teachers and parents are seemingly over-careful about our habits while we are young, let us remember that much of what we become as adults is shaped during habit-forming years of childhood.

Christian Habits

"Practice what you have learned," is Moffatt's translation of Philippians 4: 9. Apply the law of habit to your Christian faith. William James offered four principles for acquiring good habits. The substance of his advice is: 1. Begin with decision. 2. Make no exceptions. 3. Accept every opportunity for action on your decision. 4. Exercise daily. Growth is the sign of life; and Christians should be growing more like Christ.

The habit of seeking and doing what Christ would approve may be acquired early.

* * * *

To LEADERS: Topic date, *August 19.* Next topic, *"Hymns we love."*

The Halifax Explosion

DOUGLAS A. CONRAD Describes Experience

THE City of Halifax recently went through twenty-one hours of terror as the naval arsenal, situated about seven miles from the center of the city, began to blow up in a series of explosions. These started at 6.30 P. M. on the evening of July 18, and throughout the night and most of the following day it seemed as if the city was undergoing a terrific bombardment, as large shells continued to explode. Along with this were six major explosions which rocked the city to its very foundations, the largest and heaviest coming at 4 A. M., when within three minutes of each other, there were two, which seemed to presage the coming of the end. The sky was lighted up as if it were daytime, and everyone thought the city would be flattened. Throughout the day there were fears that a large magazine containing 50,000 depth charges would also blow up; but this was averted.

Tens of thousands of people were evacuated from their homes and many of those who had cars left the city by the South Shore route, the only outlet not in the danger zone. People spent the night on the Commons, in the Public Gardens and other parks, waiting, not knowing what was going to happen. The weather was warm, which made it very convenient for the people, especially for those who had small children, to remain out of doors. The people took the experience well, and there were no signs whatsoever of panic, although the experience was terrifying.

Considering the force and power of the explosions, it is marvelous that there was little loss of life. One sailor was killed, three are missing, and the number of injured is surprisingly low. However, the damage to buildings throughout the whole city was very extensive. Windows were shattered, chimneys broken, doors blown off. Churches, especially, were hard hit.

Our own Lutheran Church of the Resurrection suffered damages which will run into the thousands of dollars. One of the large stained glass windows was almost completely destroyed, another large window was forced off its base, the chimney so badly cracked and twisted that it must be taken down completely, large cracks developed in the walls, and many other windows have serious bulges in them.

That experience has taught us what some of the people in Europe had to endure for six years of war, night after night. The people of Halifax learned what it meant to get down flat, and to remain there on the ground until the force of the explosion had gone over. Houses a hundred miles away rocked on their foundations. It was an experience which no one ever wants to go through again, and strong protests are being made to the government to have the arsenal moved a considerable distance from this crowded city.

From Prose to Verse

Nebraska Pastor Employs Both Media of Expression

It's now summer, finally, in Nebraska. I once heard that during the hot summer months the churches in the cities of the East have much trouble in getting people to church on Sundays, and that then church services are very poorly attended. I do not know whether that is so, for I never was in the East.

Here in Nebraska it is just the contrary; I always have the best church attendance in summer, for then the roads are good and the weather is fair. The worst time here, when church is almost empty, is spring—Lent time especially—for in spring our roads are often bottomless. Then only those few old souls living in the town of Otoe itself come to service. When that happened this year—and it happened more than once this year, as we seem to be getting all the rain that we did not have during the drought years—I had a little experience, which I formed into a poem. It might be of interest to many of my brethren in the office, and so I am sending this one to you.

Faithful in Little

You ask me why I preached today
  Where just a very few
Attended service. "Did it pay
  For them so much to do?"

Well, do you see the fountain, friend,
  There in the busy street?
It does its water always spend,
  Refreshing, cool, and sweet.

It offers drink to everyone,
  And does it freely, too;
And does not stop its water's run
  When merely come a few.

Just so a pastor loyally
  Must preach the Gospel here,
No matter what the number be
  Of those who come and hear.

Such was the Saviour's attitude;
  Such is His servant's part;
To preach, be it a multitude
  Or but a single heart.

—*R. M. Sauberzweig*

Service Men in Hospitals

Hollywood Lutheran Service Cent
Los Angeles 28, Cal
July 10, 19

Dear LUTHERAN:

THE report comes to us that all the i
jured service men in Europe will be tran
ferred to military hospitals in this cou
try within the next few weeks. Many a
also returning continuously from t
Pacific.

It is my opinion, Mr. Editor, that y
can help greatly to impress upon hon
churches that we Service Pastors c
usually call on these men *only if we ha
their names from their home pastors.* Th
National Lutheran Council has excelle
facilities to clear these names and a
dresses to the nearest Service Center, k
pastor, or Lutheran chaplain. The sco
of our ministry to our own Lutheran m
can be increased greatly if the faciliti
of the office in Minneapolis are actua
used regularly by our home pastors. Th
office address is as follows:

**Service Commission of the National Lu
theran Council, 915 Metropolitan Buildin
Minneapolis 2, Minn.**

Surely at no time has our ministry be
quite as important as right now. It is,
course, no secret that the only way w
can know that there are Lutheran men
the various wards is by receiving the
names from home. Please use your in

fluence through your church paper to remind our pastors to keep the addresses coming in up to date. I should like to see a reminder in each of the Lutheran publications about once a month.

Sincerely yours,
H. Clarence Johnson,
Service Pastor.

Piper Calls for Pay

Readers of The Lutheran are thankful for the report of Dr. P. O. Bersell, who was sent by the National Lutheran Council to the churches of Europe. We eagerly await more definite word concerning the church in Germany. In particular, we want word concerning the "spiritual giants" of Protestantism. We want more accurate observations than the careless classification of the Roman Catholic Cardinal Faulhaber with the Lutheran "spiritual giants." These giants are made to be of diminutive stature, if Faulhaber be the measuring stick.

Our Lutheran observer, furthermore, becomes less trustworthy when we contemplate the fact that no Catholic Cardinal could ever have resisted the Nazi state, nor would he have dreamed of doing so. This, because of the fact that the Catholic Church mightily helped Hitler to power, and, because again the Catholic Church in the infamous Concordat reached a most profitable agreement with the Nazi State. Of the Concordat the Roman Catholic historians Blood-Ryan (page 221) say, "Thus a weapon had been forged against the Lutheran Church in Prussia, and the Catholic Church won a great victory over Protestantism in German-speaking lands." To cite the Roman Catholic Cardinal as a spiritual giant of the German resistance movement betrays tragic ignorance of the whole German Church situation.

In his "Mein Kampf" Hitler approved of everything particularly related to Jesuit Catholicism as opposed to Protestantism. He approved of the indisputability of Catholic dogmas, the intolerant attitude of Catholic education, the personal infallibility of the Pope, etc. He said, "Thus the Catholic Church is more secure than ever." In "Mein Kampf" Hitler, however, clearly indicated his hostility to Protestantism. He said, "Protestantism opposes in an extreme and vigorous manner every attempt that is made to rid the nation of its worst enemy: in fact, the position of Protestantism with regard to Judaism is more or less dogmatically fixed. But we have now come to a point where this problem will have to be solved; otherwise all attempts at the Renaissance of Germany and National regeneration will be of no avail."

Faulhaber never disturbed so favorable a situation by even a single peep. The Catholic attitude could not be better expressed than it was by Cardinal Faulhaber himself, when he said, "We are fighting for our rights within the Nazi regime, and not against it."

Rome championed Hitler; it styled Mussolini "a gift of providence" (so said Pope Pius XI).

Now let Protestant churchmen require that the erring Vatican pay the piper and share the liabilities of their defeated proteges.

Arnold F. Keller.
Utica, N. Y.

Luther League Bible Camp in Iowa

Iowa Luther Leaguers are planning for their first Bible Camp, August 13-17, at Clear Lake, 12 miles west of Mason City, Iowa. Richard Johannesen of Davenport is director.

Courses offered are as follows: "The Church Worker and His Personal Life," "Improving Our Leadership," a short book of the New Testament, "Our Church and Its Work," and a special mission course. League members from Sioux City, Fairfield, Clinton, Davenport, Cedar Rapids, Iowa Falls, and Des Moines will have charge of the devotional periods. Officials of the state League and the Synod are hopeful that the camp will become an annual affair.

South Carolina News

Unique Vacation School, Plans for Development, and Dr. McCullough's Retirement

By Wynne C. Boliek

In June many of the churches in the South Carolina Synod were busy with vacation church schools. Pastors of congregations in the cities and towns find that the weeks immediately following the close of the public school are the best for these schools.

One of the successful schools which had a unique yet successful program was that of *St. Matthew's Church, Charleston,* Paul M. Kinports, D.D., pastor. The school featured an Indian Pow-wow. Miss Winnie Butt, who served as dean, reports that 157 were enrolled. Daily sessions were from 9.00 A. M. till noon for two weeks. A mission study class on the American Indian was taught by Miss Winifred Losse to the four department age levels. She was in costume and her room was arranged with proper setting, including a tepee, council fire, pictures, craft, and exhibits from the Charleston Museum. The pipe of peace was smoked by the entire school. This ceremony was led by Dr. Kinports and six Intermediate "braves." Each department was organized as a tribe and wore feather headbands. Bracelets for each member were woven during the craft period and the award certificates were hand-painted with an Indian design.

The school was opened each day with a prayer period in the church, after which Bible study was presented by visual aids. The movie machine and stereopticon held the interest and proved to be a valuable method of teaching all groups from Beginners to teen-age. After seeing a Bible story, the students read, discussed, and dramatized it. The handcraft periods were directed by Dr. and Mrs. Kinports. Much skill and variety were developed and shown at the concluding exhibit of the school. Boys specialized in Indian craft, sun-suits made by juniors will be sent to Miss Frieda Hoh for the Puerto Rico Mission. A stained glass window was painted in the Junior room. The closing exercises were held in the church with each department giving a presentation of its work.

LWA Oversubscribed

The last report of efforts for Lutheran World Action in this synod by Dr. C. E. Derrick of Charleston, shows that over $24,000 has been raised for this cause. The report thus far indicates approximately 12 percent on the synod's quota for the synod.

The Church of the Incarnation, Columbia, the Rev. George E. Meetze pastor, had a quota of $459 for Lutheran World Action. The amount sent to the treasurer of synod by this church was $1,000. Over 200 percent! So far the highest percentage for any congregation of the synod.

Lutheran Broadcasts

Two of the Lutheran churches in Columbia are now broadcasting their morning services regularly one Sunday each month. Ebenezer Church, Dr. C. E. Fritz pastor, broadcasts over Station WIS each first Sunday morning of the month. The Church of the Incarnation, the Rev. George E. Meetze pastor, broadcasts over the new radio station WKIX each fourth Sunday morning.

The report of J. D. Ballentine, treasurer of the synod, shows that for the first six months of this year $17,500 was sent to the ULCA; for the same period last year $11,500. We are proud of this increase.

Dr. and Mrs. W. P. Houseal of Columbia observed their sixty-fourth wedding anniversary June 16. The couple were mar-

ried in Newberry, where they made their home for many years before moving to Columbia. Dr. Houseal is widely known throughout the synod and the church at large, having been connected with the old *Lutheran Church Visitor* for many years.

A Half Century of Service

H. A. McCullough, D.D., for thirty-four years pastor of St. Paul's Church, Columbia, will retire at the end of this year to become pastor emeritus. In October Dr. McCullough will have completed fifty years of service in the active ministry, which began in Concord, N. C. Dr. McCullough is widely known and beloved as a leader in the Church. He has also participated in civic and state programs. His three sons are in the ministry. He has served on the Board of Trustees of the Lutheran Seminary, of Newberry College, and of the Home for the Blind in Columbia. Dr. McCullough has rendered an outstanding service in the church and in the state.

A New Congregation

Sunday morning, June 24, a congregation was organized at *Laurens* with a charter membership of forty. The Rev. J. Shelton Moose of Clinton had been working with this group for the past six months and led in the organization. The services have been held at the Episcopal Church, but it is the desire of this congregation to obtain a lot and erect a church of their own.

The Rev. Lester O. Roof has resigned as pastor of Cedar Grove Parish, Leesville, to accept a call to the Rural Hall Parish, Rural Hall, N. C. This resignation became effective July 8. Pastor Roof had served Cedar Grove for sixteen years, following his graduation from the seminary in Columbia.

Holy Trinity Church, Anderson, the Rev. J. Alton Clark pastor, has begun the erection of a new parish building. Pastor and people have been working toward this development and will have sufficient funds to pay for this building upon completion.

Mt. Tabor Church, West Columbia, the Rev. J. A. Keisler, Jr., pastor, recently voted to approve the preliminary designs for a new church and educational unit. After purchasing lots for this development, the congregation has approximately $35,000 on hand for use in the building program.

Sunday morning, June 17, the congregations of *St. Andrew's* and *St. Mark's, Blythewood,* came together for a special service in St. Mark's Church. The occasion was the burning of the mortgage on the parsonage and the act of blessing. The Rev. J. L. Ballentine is pastor of this parish. The parsonage had been erected several years ago during the pastorate of the Rev. G. L. Barger. Regular monthly payments had been made since, and it was decided to put forth a special effort and complete the payment.

President Kinard Visits Churches

Trinity Church, Georgetown, was visited by President Karl W. Kinard on the afternoon of June 10. The Rev. H. D. Kleckley of Navy Yard, Charleston, was liturgist. During June and July, Miss Anna Lomanick is conducting a Bible school and assisting in other work in the parish.

The Church of the Ascension, Columbia, the Rev. H. A. McCullough, Jr., pastor, was visited by the president of synod June 3. This was a former parish of President Kinard before he took up his official duties in synod. This congregation is raising funds and making plans for the erection of a new parish building.

On the morning of June 10, President Kinard visited *Advent Church, Navy Yard, Charleston,* of which the Rev. H. D. Kleckley is pastor. The occasion was the dedication of the church. The indebtedness of the congregation had been paid in full. The Rev. D. A. Sox of Atlanta who organized this congregation and was pastor when the church was built, participated

in the service. Here is a large field for development and plans are being made to secure a parish worker to assist the pastor.

President Kinard visited the *Church of the Reformation, Columbia,* Wynne C. Boliek, D.D., pastor, Sunday evening, June 3, and was in charge of the service. He commented on the large thermometer in the church which indicates gifts for the Building and Property Fund. A minimum of $20,000 has been set to be raised by January 1946, when the congregation will celebrate its twentieth anniversary. Approximately $14,000 of this amount is now in hand.

The Rev. J. M. Frick, pastor of Wittenberg Church, Leesville, has completed i first year in this parish. He came to t work from Atlanta. This year has seen number of progressive moves of whi the pastor and people are quite proud.

The Rev. Charles Wessinger, pastor the Saluda Parish, was married to *Alice Young* of Charlotte, N. C., in Ju

The Lutheran congregations of Charle ton and vicinity unite for a joint servi each Sunday evening during the summ months. The services are held in St. Ma thew's Church, with the pastors of t various congregations taking their turn Choirs from the several churches a ushers likewise assist in these services.

Canadian Cameo

"Support the Church Movement" Inaugurated

By Norman Berner

Under the energetic leadership of the *Rev. Fred Mueller,* St. Matthew's Church, Welland, is launching a community "Support the Church" movement. The idea came from an article by E. E. Keister in a recent issue of The Lutheran, and consists of a series of advertisements run weekly in the local newspaper in an attempt to influence the unchurched people to support the church. The ad will cost $35 a week. In the course of four days Pastor Mueller was able to interest enough businessmen and merchants to sponsor the ad for a whole year. Concerning the plan he says: "This will give the Lutheran Church in our community a tremendous influence, as I have reserved the right to have our Lutheran church ad right next to the sponsor's, and within the write-up of the ad. We are the first community that is trying the series here in Canada."

A Diamond Jubilee

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Neustadt, the Rev. F. W. Haak pastor, celebrated its diamond jubilee June 10. Organized 75 years ago with only 23 charter member St. Paul's has had difficulty in securin and maintaining a pastor. For a time was a "Union Church" (Lutheran an Reformed); but in 1930 called the Re John Peters of St. John's, Ayton, to serv the congregation and became part of th parish. In 1939 the Rev. F. W. Haak too charge of the congregation, and growth an activity have been steady. Taking part i the anniversary services were Dr. J. H Reble, president of the Canada Synod Dr. H. T. Lehmann, president of Waterlo Seminary, and others.

Among the Pastors

The Rev. Alvin Schweitzer, pastor of th Linwood Parish, has accepted a call to th Brantford-Woodstock Parish. He was in stalled July 15 by the Rev. E. W. Heim rich, secretary of the English Division o the Home Mission Committee of the Can ada Synod. He succeeds the Rev. Norma Berner, who left in February of this yea to follow a call to the St. Lawrence Parish in eastern Ontario. In order to get hous

ing for its new pastor, St. Matthew's Church, Brantford, purchased a parsonage for $5,400 and is now intensifying its effort to raise enough cash for the down payment.

The Canada Synod has lost one of the most able of its younger pastors. The *Rev. Otto F. Reble,* son of the president of synod, has crossed the river from Windsor, Ontario, to Detroit, Mich., to become pastor of Augsburg Lutheran Church. While at Trinity-St. Paul's, Pastor Reble built up that mission to a high standard and began a fund for the erection of a new church. He also served a small group of Lutherans at Paincourt. At the time of his departure Pastor Reble was president of the Stratford Conference and a member of the Board of Governors of Waterloo College and Seminary.

Welcomed back into the Canada Synod, which he left a few years ago, is the *Rev. Frans J. Koski.* He is serving the Finnish Lutheran Church at Kirkland Lake.

Dr. Blackwelder Rally Speaker

The Rev. Dr. Oscar F. Blackwelder, Washington, D. C., was preacher at the annual Lutheran Rally sponsored by the Twin City Council of Brotherhoods and held at Waterloo Park June 24. "This is a Year for Greatness" was Dr. Blackwelder's theme. Participating in the service were Pastors C. S. Roberts, A. G. Jacobi, John Schmieder, and A. W. Lotz. Two anthems were sung by the Lutheran choirs of Kitchener-Waterloo under the direction of Mr. A. J. Packer. The service was broadcast over the Canadian Broadcasting Company's network.

The marriage has been announced of *Dr. H. T. Lehmann,* president of Waterloo College and Seminary, and *Miss Alice Koski.* The ceremony was performed at the Finnish Lutheran Church in Newcastle, Pa.

Installation of President Reble

Tentative plans have been made to hold the installation of the *Rev. Dr. J. H. Reble,* the first full-time president of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Canada, in St. Peter's Church, Kitchener, Thursday, September 13. An invitation has been sent to Dr. F. C. Fry, president of the ULCA, to perform the act of installation, or if he cannot personally attend, to send his representative. Dr. Reble has resigned his pastorate at St. Paul's, Hamilton, and will take up his full-time duties in the synod September 1.

Sister Mildred Winter, field secretary of the Deaconess Board, toured the Canada Synod during the month of June. Her visit has given impetus to an interest in the deaconess work that has been evident here in the past few years. Sister Mildred addressed the synod while in session and conferred with officials and pastors on the possibility of establishing a deaconess center in Canada. After speaking to numerous congregational groups and contacting a number of interested young women, she left for the Canadian West to take part in a summer school program.

Dr. Alex O. Potter, dean of Waterloo College when it became affiliated with the University of Western Ontario twenty years ago, will return to the faculty when the school opens in the fall. He will head the department of history. After leaving Waterloo, Dr. Potter served Rotary International as secretary at Chicago and Geneva, Switzerland. During the war he served as censor for the Dominion Government at Ottawa, where his familiarity with European countries and languages was a great asset.

The Rev. R. B. Geelhaar and the *Rev. S. Cooper* celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of their ordination recently, and were honored by their respective parishes. Pastor Geelhaar has spent almost his whole ministry in the Listowel Parish. Pastor Cooper, now serving the Sherwood-Unionville Parish, held pastorates previously in Galt, Sault Ste. Marie and Welland. Pastors Cooper and Geelhaar were classmates at Waterloo Seminary.

Land o' the Lakes

Dedication, Debt Liquidation and Aggressive Organization in Michigan Congregations

By Paul W. Dieckman

"The Michigan Synod has over-subscribed its quota to Lutheran World Action for the third consecutive year," according to the Rev. C. M. Alexander, synodical director of the appeal. Two-thirds of the congregations within the synod have passed the goal established for them, while others are in the process of completing the appeal: 110 percent of the synodical goal has been received at this writing.

Dedication Service

June 24, the chapel of *Gloria Dei Church, Detroit,* was dedicated at an afternoon service. Preceding the service the congregation met at the parsonage, where they have been worshiping for the past twelve months, and after a brief service proceeded to the new chapel. This chapel, of Gothic design, will seat 144 persons, and is part of a greater plan whereby this unit will some day become the parish house. Toward this chapel, the synod, its congregations and organizations contributed $1,525.

At this first service the congregation and their friends filled the chapel. The pastor, the Rev. M. Roderick Anderson, conducted the Service of Dedication and the Rev. W. I. Hackenberg, former president of the Home Mission Committee, delivered the sermon. It was a little more than a year ago that these two pastors met with eleven interested people of the community to talk about the formation of a congregation, which today numbers 84, with 75 in the church school.

Debt Free

Olivet Church, Detroit, having amortized all of its indebtedness, which in October 1944 amounted to $4,600, conducted a service of mortgage burning on May 13. The speaker on this occasion was C. F. Stickles, D.D., pastor of Reformat Church, Detroit. May 13 also marked tenth anniversary of the pastorate of Rev. Vernon E. Kotter.

Unity Church, Detroit, observed twenty-first anniversary of the dedicat of its church June 17, and at the sa time marked the liquidation of all cong gational indebtedness, which in 1938 h amounted to $18,000. The Rev. P. Dieckman, president of the synod, preach the anniversary sermon. June 17 a marked the thirty-sixth anniversary of h ordination of the Rev. S. L. Boger, pas of Unity Church since its organization 1922.

Personal

The Rev. Otto F. Reble, for the p eight years pastor of Trinity-St. Pa Church, Windsor, Ontario, was install as pastor of Augsburg Church, Detro June 3, by President P. W. Dieckman. T liturgist was the Rev. T. F. Weiskotte who has been supply pastor for the pa five months.

The Rev. Homer Berner, pastor Ascension Church, Pontiac, after a br but intensively active pastorate, resign as of July 15 to accept a call from t Board of American Missions. Pastor Bern will assume charge of the Division of Su veys in the Chicago office of the Board.

The Rev. Thomas D. Williams, assista pastor of First Church, Dayton, Ohio, a cepted the call to Ascension Churc Pontiac, effective July 16.

The Rev. Vernon E. Kotter, pastor Olivet Church, Detroit, has resigned, e fective July 31, to assume charge of Mic igan Synod's newest mission congregatio Christ Church, Monroe.

Congregations

Christ Church, Detroit, recently celebrated the fortieth anniversary of its organization. Charles B. Foelsch, Ph.D., president of the Chicago Lutheran Seminary, was the guest preacher. A congregational banquet was held May 25, the date of the organization, at which time the program presented included a dramatization of the history of the congregation. The Rev. W. I. Hackenberg is pastor of Christ Church.

First Hungarian Lutheran Church, Detroit, held a special service May 6 to commemorate the fifth anniversary of the English Division. A fine spirit of cooperation has prevailed among the members of these two congregations worshiping in the same building. It has saved the young people for the church by providing English services for them and activities which maintain their interest.

At this special anniversary service the parsonage mortgage was burned by the Rev. Martin Zulauf, pastor of the English Division. One year and three months was all that was required to pay for a $6,000 parsonage. Those participating in this service were the Rev. I. O. Miller, pastor of Messiah Church, Detroit, and president of the Home Mission Committee, and the Rev. James Becker, pastor of the Hungarian division.

Hope Church, Detroit, the Rev. F. P. Madsen pastor, found its "Easter to Pentecost Pilgrimage" a real inspiration and joy. There was a 44 percent increase in attendance over the previous year, with an average attendance of 653 each Sunday. During this period 71 new members were received into the congregation. Hope congregation, now the largest in the synod, was fortunate in being able to secure a parish worker and were happy when Miss Lillian Hoover, a graduate of the Baltimore Motherhouse, began her duties among members of this congregation June 1.

Trinity Church, Kalamazoo, recently reduced its indebtedness $2,000 and is striving toward complete amortization of all indebtedness. Pastor Arthur E. Wulf recently began a series of regular prayer services for the members of the congregation in the Armed Forces.

Immanuel Church, Jackson, recently sold their church property and purchased several lots in an adjoining neighborhood, where they contemplate the erection of a new church as soon as priorities permit. For the present they are worshiping in the chapel of a funeral home. The aggressive young pastor, the Rev. Richard A. Miller, has rallied this congregation to the point where the attendance and offerings have quadrupled those of last year.

Christ Church, Monroe, synod's newest mission congregation, has purchased a large, well-located lot on one of the main thoroughfares. This congregation, although without pastoral leadership, has laid plans for a Building Fund Campaign, in which they anticipate the ingathering of $40,000. Since their first service they have been worshiping each Sunday afternoon in the Episcopal Church; but with the coming of a pastor they anticipate having morning services in one of the city's school auditoriums until a church can be erected.

S.S. Carthage Victory Launched

President Erland Nelson of Carthage College, Carthage, Ill., left July 7 for Richmond, Calif., to be present when the good ship *S. S. Carthage Victory* is launched. President Nelson has accepted the invitation extended by the Permanente Metals Corporation to speak briefly concerning Carthage College at the time of the launching.

The date of the launching was originally scheduled for July 20, but at the time of Dr. Nelson's departure, the exact day had not been determined. This event is taking place earlier than anticipated as construction of the 10,000-ton vessel has proceeded at a more rapid rate than was at first thought possible.

Cornhusker News

Activities of Congregations of the Nebraska Synod

By Alfred O. Frank

With abundant rain, the rich black loam of Nebraska has produced a luxuriance of vegetation in tree and field which has turned the dust bowl of ten years ago into a delight to behold. Nebraska is a garden spot in which to live, peacefully and plentifully.

Plans have been completed for the annual *Summer Assembly* with a strong faculty, highlighted by a special attraction for pastors in the Pastor's Clinic, conducted by Secretary W. H. Greever of the United Lutheran Church. He will deliver his Knubel-Miller Lectures on "The Minister and the Ministry." With the Rev. A. H. Pinkall as president of the Assembly, it will meet in conjunction with the synodical Missionary Society's convention on the campus of Midland College at Fremont.

Congregations in Action

Beatrice. The Rev. G. H. Shiery, pastor of Trinity Church, reports repairs to the church and splendid response to Lutheran World Action.

Benedict-Hampton Parish, the Rev. Karl Gigstad pastor. These congregations have been stressing the vacation Bible school, children's festivals and campaign for funds for Midland College.

Columbus. The Rev. J. A. M. Shiery and Miss Lucile L. Reinhardt were married June 6.

Dakota City-Homer-Hubbard Parish, the Rev. Herman Joens pastor, enjoyed the benefits of successful vacation Bible schools in successive periods with marked interest.

Emerson. St. Luke's Church, the Rev. R. R. Pfeiffer pastor, received a neon cross for the tower as a memorial to Lt. Ronnfeldt, and a memorial room in Tabitha Home's new building in memory of C B. Lewis, D.D., first pastor of the chu

Hardy. Union Church, Mr. Ker Rupley supply, received 26 new memb on Pentecost.

Hooper. Grace Church, the Rev. Paul Freese pastor, observed the thirtieth niversary of the founding of the cong gation with special services and dedicat of new stained glass windows. A splen vacation Bible school and the format of a missionary society are signs of grow

Leigh. St. John's Church, the R Harry Mumm pastor, reports a "gu day" observed by the Missionary Socie with neighboring congregations invit The response was gratifying. Daily va tion Bible school and special childre work indicate activity.

Lincoln. Grace Church, L. H. Lesh D.D., pastor, on June 3 witnessed the co missioning of *Miss Helen Evans* missio ary to Africa, one of the contributions the congregation to mission work. M O. L. Sturtevant presented Miss Eva with a gold cross and chain from the S ciety of the synod.

Omaha

Luther Memorial Church, the Rev. W. Most pastor, reports 78 new members r ceived for the year. Improvements ha been made to the property of this missi congregation and youth work is progres ing.

St. Luke's Church, the Rev. A. H. Pink pastor, is observing this year as its fo tieth anniversary, giving special attenti to offerings for Lutheran World Actio Tabitha Home and Midland College.

First Church, the Rev. A. W. You pastor, is emphasizing increased bene

olence, daily vacation Bible school, and increased Sunday school attendance.

Grace-St. Mark's congregations are now being served by the Rev. Henry Goede as one parish.

Paxton-Sutherland Parish, the Rev. E. C. Mortensen pastor, is indicating the prosperity of western Nebraska by splendid contributions to Lutheran World Action, general benevolence and Midland College.

Salem Church, Ponca, the Rev. Erich Petersen pastor, ventured forth in an experiment of a camp-vacation Bible school, which proved most encouraging. Pastor Petersen began his ministry in the congregation in February.

Scribner-Snyder Parish, the Rev. R. V. Davis pastor, has purchased property for a new church building as soon as conditions permit. Accessions and interest indicated by attendance at services are encouraging for this mission.

Stamford. Trinity Church, the Rev. Carl J. Olson pastor, is setting apart August 5 as a special Midland College-Seminary Day with a representative of this institution speaking.

West Point. Grace Church, the Rev. W. A. Klink pastor, has met the Midland College campaign goal. The choir recently were the recipients of new robes, a gift of one of the members.

Hildreth. St. Paul's Church, the Rev. E. Switzer pastor, has enjoyed increased attendance at services, with special observances for V-E Day, and memorial services for men in the services.

Midland College

The campaign for $225,000 is being carried forward under the able direction of Acting President William Hieronymus, Ph.D., assisted by Mrs. Mary Burkhart, campaign treasurer.

The Rev. George Krebs, as field representative, is finding much encouragement in advance registrations, indicative of a splendid enrollment this fall.

Alumni work will be given added impetus in the coming year by the employment of Mrs. J. S. Anderson of Fremont as alumni secretary. She will give special attention to the enlistment of interest among alumni and former students for a greater Midland College.

Dean Herman Gimmestad will return to the campus this fall after a year's leave of absence to complete his work at Wisconsin University for his Ph.D. degree.

Seminary students are conducting the morning devotions during July and August over Station KORN. The Ministerial Association of the city sponsors these broadcasts.

Chaplain Moehlmann at Home

Col. F. Herbert Moehlmann, Ch.C., U. S. Army, reports that he has returned to "the good old U. S. A." and will be on his way with his organization to the Pacific after a thirty-day leave. Chaplain Moehlmann received the Bronze Star citation for meritorious service.

He is spending his leave with his wife at Madison, Wis.

Called to Wagner College

The Rev. Paul John Kirsch, pastor of Calvary Church in the Bronx, New York, has accepted a call to teach religious studies at Wagner College, Staten Island, N. Y. He is the successor of Dr. Martin J. Heinecken, who recently accepted the call of the Philadelphia Seminary to teach Dogmatics.

Pastor Kirsch is at present engaged in work for his Ph.D. at Columbia University. He was ordained in 1937 after graduation from the Philadelphia Seminary. He will begin his duties at the college in September.

KINDLY LIGHT

BY JOSEPH R. SIZOO

Minister of the Collegiate Church of St. Nicholas, New York

DRAMA IN REAL LIFE—XXI

As I CAME to the doorway of our canteen that Saturday night, a junior hostess drew me hastily into a corner.

"We've got a problem boy on our hands," she confided. "Please see what you can do."

Through the smoky haze of the dance room I saw a young sailor, with black curly hair and half-closed eyes. He stood by a window and his fists were tightly clenched, as if he had caught hold of something dreadful and could not let go.

A few minutes later, I touched him on the shoulder.

"How are you, sailor?"

"Good evening, sir." The voice was unexpectedly gentle and courteous as he looked at me briefly and then turned lowered eyes back to the window.

"Feel like dancing? I could introduce you—"

"No, thank you, sir."

"How about a smoke?"

"No, thank you, sir."

"Care for some coffee and sandwiches?"

"No, thank you, sir."

"Would you rather I piped down?" I asked, forcing a grin.

"No, thank you, sir."

It was like that, no matter what I said to him. Yet I couldnt walk off and leave him, solitary and grim, with those clenched fists; a man who has stayed in the ministry as long as I have is not easily discouraged.

After a while I tried again:

"You are English?"

"Cornwall, sir."

I had been in Cornwall in my youth. I spoke of St. Ives, Falmouth and Penzance. Yes, sir, he knew them. I extolled the beauties of rocky coast, stone castles and mysterious monuments; politely he concurred in my enthusiasm, but he would at no point push the conversation one sentence forward, nor did he ever once relax [h]is mighty, sunburned fists.

Three or four times I had to excuse [m]yself, to greet visitors, to award a prize [to] the best dancers of the evening, and ot[her] little tasks. Each time I came back to [the] sailor and tried to make dialogue, but [it] remained a monologue, punctuated with [an] antiphonal assent of "Yes, sir," and "[No] sir."

As midnight came on, the rooms emptied [and] we were shutting up the canteen for the night.

"Look here," I said, "you've got some deep trouble; anybody can see that. I'm not curious and I dont want to pry—but you look to me like a man who can't sleep. Is that right?"

"Yes, sir."

"Well, that's because you can't find peace of mind, of course. It often happens if you get something off your chest, you feel better. We're alone here now; why don't you tell me?"

There was no relaxing of his tautness, and the look that he gave me was hopelessly impatient.

"All right, I'll tell you," he sighed, and sat down in a folding chair. Fists on his knees, he looked straight down at a small stain on the floor. His voice was a monotone:

"I grew up in St. Ives with a girl who lived next door. Her name was Janie. Her people were friends with my people, and we all thought a lot of each other. When the war came, I went to sea. I have seen a lot of war down in the South Pacific. One day I wrote Janie a letter and asked her if she would marry me. She wrote me right back she would be glad to. So we made plans, and finally I got back to Cornwall with five days' leave—all our own

We had a very pretty ceremony in the church we always went to. There was to be high tea at Janie's house after the ceremony, and then we were to go off by ourselves for the rest of my leave. But first I had a job to do; things were a little bit snarled up and it was my duty to report to the Admiralty Office that I was in town. The first chance I had was as soon as the service was over, so I went down to the office and registered. Then I started back for Janie's house. But it wasn't there."

I could hear the ticking of my wrist watch in that interval of silence. The sailor swallowed hard and went on in the same monotone:

"At first I couldn't believe my eyes. There was only a hole in the ground. Jerry had come over. The house was gone, and so was Janie, and her people and mine—not enough of them left to be worth burying."

I would have put my arms around him, but I knew it wasn't the thing to do. It is better not to touch a mortal wound. What could I say? There must be something one man can say to another in woe like that. Yet I couldn't think of anything. We just sat there in the brightly lighted dance room in the very darkest part of early morning, and both of us stared at the floor.

"Sailor," I proposed finally, "would you care to come home with me? You can have my son's room; he's overseas. My wife would be glad to bring you breakfast in bed; we'd both love to have you."

"No, thank you, sir."

I looked at him and grew desperate.

"If you like, I'll take off my clerical collar and we'll go to one of the late shows. It might distract you."

"No, thank you, sir."

"Well, my car is downstairs. Let's go for a long ride, and I'll drop you off later at your ship. A ride in the night air might help you to get some sleep."

"No, thank you, sir."

What did I have left? Only my faith; the one thing I had carefully avoided all evening, fearing that it would be unwelcome. We are often timid about the best of our gifts.

"Did you ever have much to do with the church?"

"Yes, sir. I used to sing in the choir when I was a child."

"Remember any hymns?"

"Most of them, sir."

"What was your favorite?"

"I think it must be 'Lead, Kindly Light'."

"Could you sing it now?"

He was still staring down at the floor, and he did not alter his position as he began to sing:

Lead, kindly Light,
Amid the encircling gloom—

Stronger and deeper became his voice, possessed of new power and a feeling that had been unutterable except in music:

The night is dark,
And I am far from home—

Eyes wide open now, it seemed as if he were looking beyond the painted walls of our canteen, beyond space and time to a choir loft in a Cornwall church. The hymn ended, he turned and asked me:

"Do you know 'Abide With Me'?"

"I'll sing it with you."

Strangest of duets! My faltering, middle-aged voice and his firm, young one, lifted in praise and faith:

When other helpers fail,
And comforts flee,
Help of the helpless,
Oh, abide with me!

The hours passed and we did not note their passing as we went on from one grand old hymn to another.

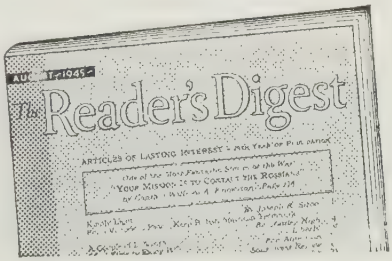
At last, in the street below, day was groping its way with fingers of light. I looked at the sailor. His eyes were shining.

"Think you can sleep now?"

"Yes, thank you, sir."

Arm in arm, we walked out into the morning.

Above is the first article in The Reader's Digest, August issue



Carolina Clippings

Changes in Pastorates and Congregational Plans

By Charles A. Phillips

After having been in a pastorate for a number of years, *Luther Chapel and Center Grove churches* have recently declared themselves self-sustaining. The Rev. Dermot Swicegood, after six years' successful pastorate at St. Enoch's, Enochville, accepted a call extended by Center Grove Church, and took charge ab August 1. A newly constructed brick p sonage was purchased recently in Kann olis. Luther Chapel expects to have pastor on the grounds at an early date.

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With the Pastors

The Rev. W. H. Stender, who until cently held a pastorate in Saluda, S. began work at St. Matthew's, Kings Mou tain, May 1, and was formally insta June 10.

The Rev. Albert Keck of Sterling, has accepted a call to Emmanuel Chur Lincolnton, and moved August 1. succeeds L. A. Thomas, D.D., who recen took over the work in Miami, Fla. Keck is a son-in-law of Dr. and M G. H. Rhodes of Albemarle.

The Rev. George W. Lingle, until cently pastor of St. James Church, Fa etteville, entered upon his new work Holy Trinity, Gastonia, and was instal May 20.

The Rev. J. K. Lasley moved fr Goldsboro to Statesville and was instal as pastor of St. John's, June 17. He su ceeded the Rev. J. L. Thornburg, who v installed as pastor of St. Mark's, Ch Grove, May 13.

The Rev. D. B. Summers, who was a number of years pastor of Nazareth a Shiloh churches, Rural Hall, entered new work at Zion, Hickory, June 1, a was installed July 22.

The Rev. J. D. Mauney, Jr., former pa tor of Mt. Olive, Hickory, began work St. James Church, Fayetteville, May 6, a was installed July 1.

The Rev. C. E. Ridenhour, formerly China Grove, was installed as pastor Holy Communion, Dallas, March 18, a

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he *Rev. Charles Bernhardt* as pastor *of* hrist Church, Stanley, May 6. The *Rev. enry F. Lineberger* was installed pastor St. Luke's, Monroe, May 27. The *Rev. eo Smith* became pastor of St. Andrew's, lay 1.

eath of Treasurer Goodman

J. A. B. Goodman, a prominent layman St. Mark's Church, Mooresville, died une 12, in his 87th year. For a number years he was treasurer of the Western onference of the United Synod of North arolina, and when a few years ago the orthern Conference was formed, he be- me treasurer, his total service in the vo conferences totaling 37 years. Mr. oodman was the father of R. A. Good- an, D.D., of the Newberry College fac- ty, and grandfather of the Rev. Gilbert oodman of Concord.

eady to Rebuild

Christiana Church, Rowan County, was tally destroyed by fire during the Sun- y school hour March 11. Services have nce been held in the school building in ranite Quarry. The congregation went work immediately making plans to re- uild under the direction of the Rev. Paul nney. Insurance amounting to $4,000, gether with pledges made since the fire, and certain other monies held by the congregation, amount to $30,000. Architect's plans have been drawn up, and application has been made to the War Production Board for a permit to build.

Christiana is the mother church of the Rev. Wilford Lyerly of Salisbury, L. A. Thomas, D.D., of Miami, the Rev. George H. L. Lingle and P. D. Brown, D.D., both of Salisbury.

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St. John's, Asheboro, the Rev. Walter Yount pastor, recently became free from debt and was dedicated June 24. President J. L. Morgan of the United Synod of North Carolina, was assisted at the dedicatory services by Pastor Vance Daniel and by the Rev. Roscoe Fisher of Lenoir, who organized and built St. John's.

The Rev. J. L. Thornburg, synodical director of Lutheran World Action, reports as of July 19, the Synod of North Carolina had exceeded its quota by something over $13,000, or 150 percent. Synod's quota was $26,405.

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West Penn Notes

By Paul Levi Foulk

Most of the Sunday schools in the W Penn Conference of the Synod of Cent Pennsylvania have received offerings *Tressler Orphan Home at Loysville, P* during the Children's Day services.

The Rev. Robert Schiebel, pastor of Carmel Church, Hanover, was host to ninth district Sunday school convention June.

Christ Church, York, Pa., the R Gerald G. Neely pastor, recently gave reception to the 95 new members recei since the Easter season.

Sister Janet Coiner

After six years of service as deacon at Christ Church, York, Pa., *Sister Ja Coiner* resigned to take up new duties Christ Church, Baltimore, Dr. John Deaton pastor. As a parting gift church council and the Sunday sch gave her a sum of money, and other ganizations and individuals presented with gifts. Sister Janet came to Ch Church after completing her training the Baltimore Motherhouse. Upon co pletion of one year of service here was consecrated. Before taking up new work, she will spend some time Lake Chautauqua, N. Y., and later hav brief vacation in Nova Scotia.

The Rev. David C. Burnite, former sistant to the Rev. Gerald G. Neely du the summer months, has been elected r ular assistant pastor and will be insta as such in August.

A Thirty-year Pastorate

The Rev. S. L. Hench, pastor of Dallastown Lutheran Church for th years, was honored in June by the c gregation. Some outstanding results this long pastorate are that debts incu in purchasing the parsonage and in bu

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ing the chapel have been paid; property adjoining the church has been purchased, also two lots south of the church; the choir and pastor have been vested; and a new church was built. The present indebtedness is $2,600. Pastoral acts include: Baptism of 484 children and 38 adults; 199 marriages; and 279 funerals. The congregation numbers 739 baptized members, 630 confirmed members, 327 communing members; Sunday school enrollment is 558. During these thirty years the church has paid its full apportionment except one year.

The Rev. and Mrs. J. M. Spangler, Trinity Church, Wrightsville, entertained the members of the senior vested choir at an outdoor supper on the lawn of the parish house July 5.

Grace Church, Red Lion, the Rev. William C. Day pastor, observed the fiftieth anniversary of the choir with a banquet for them June 15 in the social room of the church.

Prior to the second quarterly conference of the *Lutheran Men of Greater York,* held in St. Paul Church, York, June 14, the following were elected to serve for the coming year: W. K. Hershey, chairman; Walter March, vice-chairman; Charles Martin, secretary; Daniel Peterman, assistant secretary; and Herman Klinedinst, treasurer. Greetings were brought by Dr. Chester S. Simonton and the Rev. I. M. Lau. Hon. Guy Leader, state senator, was the guest speaker. St. Peter's Church will entertain the next meeting.

Fiftieth Anniversary

Fifty years of service was celebrated by the *Ladies' Aid Society of Union Church, York,* in June. A special program was presented with Mrs. Peter Elsesser, first president of the society, as honor guest. A brief history of the organization was given by Mrs. Lyman G. Sener. Mrs. Thomas Malin was guest speaker. Devotions were conducted by the pastor's wife, Mrs. Carl Simon.

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Lutheran World Action

Many congregations have gone "over t top" in the 1945 Lutheran World Acti appeal. A much larger budget will presented for 1946. Some of the congr gations have discovered that a good tir to raise this extra benevolence is durin the Lenten season. St. Peter's, York, th Rev. Howard O. Walker pastor, with quota of $600 has raised $814. Other co gregations have done equally well.

Upper Darby Church Celebrates Silver Jubilee

Christ Church, Upper Darby, Philadelphia, Pa., celebrated its twenty-fifth an niversary with a series of services whic began Whitsunday, when the Communio was administered. The congregation, no numbering a thousand active confirme members, was organized with the accep ance of seventeen charter members an the first reception of the Lord's Supper o Whitsunday, June 20, 1920, by the lat Dr. Silas D. Daugherty, superintendent the Board of Home Missions of the Eas Pennsylvania Synod.

The guest preacher Sunday morning May 27, was the Rev. Dr. Paul J. Hol president of the Philadelphia Theological Seminary. An anniversary musical pro gram was presented in the evening by th fifty members of the three volunteer choir of the church under the direction of Mr Paul S. Wagner, who has served gratu itously in this capacity approximatel twenty-four years. The service wa preceded by an organ recital by Mis Florence E. Richards, church organist fo twelve years.

Sunday morning, June 3, the Rev. Dr Paul S. Wagner, the first and only pasto of the congregation, serving for all bu six months of its twenty-five years, deliv ered an anniversary sermon. The Rev Dr. M. R. Hamsher, president of the Cen tral Pennsylvania Synod, preached Sunda morning, June 10, and installed as as sistant pastor of the church, the Rev

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Harry L. Berkebile, who was graduated from Gettysburg Seminary last February. The annual baccalaureate service for the congregation's college and high school graduates was conducted June 17, with the Rev. Dr. Henry W. A. Hanson, president of Gettysburg College, as the speaker. The concluding anniversary service took place June 24, when Dr. F. Eppling Reinartz represented the United Lutheran Church and gave the message.

Wednesday evening, June 20, a banquet was held. The Rev. Reginald W. Deitz, a member of the congregation and a writer for the Parish and Church School Board, was toastmaster. Dr. Clarence C. Stoughton, president of Wagner Memorial College, Staten Island, delivered the chief address. Outstanding events in the life of the church were presented in tableaux. Among the congratulatory messages received during the anniversary celebration and read at the banquet were personal letters from Governor Edward Martin of Pennsylvania and President Harry S. Truman. A gift of one hundred silver dollars was presented to Dr. and Mrs. Paul S. Wagner.

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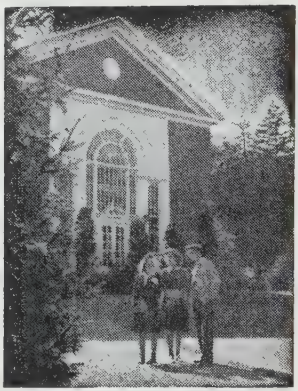
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For the first ten years of its history, Christ Church as a mission received $12,755 from the Home Mission Boards of the East Pennsylvania Synod and the United Lutheran Church. During the twenty-five years $41,405.33 has been contributed for apportioned and unapportioned benevolences, and $270,227.36 for current and building expenses. With the exception of a very few years, during the depths of the depression and the height of the church's indebtedness, the apportioned benevolences have been paid in fu Liberal contributions also have been ma to unapportioned causes. An importa part of the anniversary in its effect up the future service of the congregation wider areas was the successful completi of a campaign during the past fifte months to secure $25,000 for material r duction of the indebtedness.

As growth and expansion have mark the first twenty-five years of the life Christ Church, a program of education a conservation will receive emphasis duri the next period of its history in order try to meet adequately new and changi conditions in the church and in the co munity.

Lutheran Welfare Society of Wisconsin

Mr. Morris Hursh of St. Paul, Minn., ha been appointed executive secretary of th Lutheran Welfare Society of Wisconsi and will begin his duties September Mr. Hursh will succeed the Rev. Henry Whiting, who left June 30 to take up wor with the National Lutheran Council, Divi sion of Welfare.

Mr. Hursh is a Lutheran layman of wid experience in the field of social work. H has been employed with the State Boar of Control of Minnesota and its successo the Division of Social Welfare, since 193

With this division he has served in various capacities as legal consultant to the Children's Bureau for three years on a full-time basis and two and a half years on a part-time basis while handling other work. This involved giving legal opinions and advice on all phases of the state agency's work with children—unmarried mothers, boarding homes, children's institutions, adoptions, etc. As supervisor of Old Age Assistance for two years he carried the responsibility for the administration of a program involving 60,000 recipients. His present position is supervisor of Services to Children's Agencies. It involves responsibility for the licensing and supervision of all private child-placing agencies, child-caring institutions, day-care facilities, and private schools for handicapped children.

Mr. Hursh recently completed the writing of new Standards for Children's Institutions in Minnesota, which was adopted by the Division of Social Welfare.

Death of M. G. Richard

The Rev. Marion G. Richard died July 24 at his home in East Lansdowne, Pa. The funeral service was held July 27 at First Lutheran Church, Collingdale, which he had helped to organize in 1922. He

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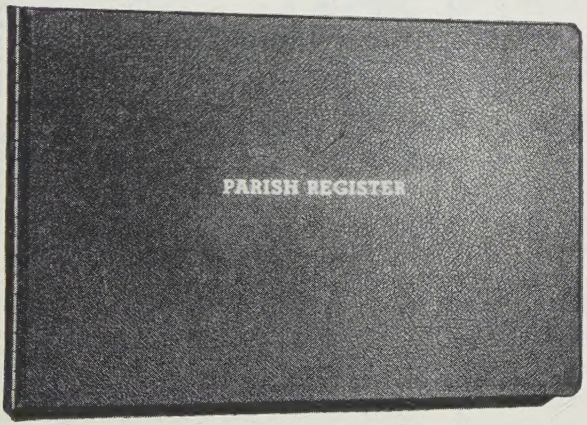

KEEP STATISTICS
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THE
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Figures appearing in the federal government's Census of Religious Bodies for 1946 will come directly from statistics kept by local congregations this year. In order that Lutheran statistics reflect creditably on our body it is necessary that records be kept accurately. The Parish Register is designed specifically for that purpose. It relieves the burden of annual church reports, provides a record for statistical and historical data and conforms to the statistical forms authorized by the U. L. C. A. Looseleaf only, special post binder, heavy board covers bound in maroon fabrikoid with metal hinge and lock. Binder size, 10¼ x 15¾ in. Sheet size, 10 x 15 in. Price, up to 300 members, $10; up to 600 members, $12; up to 900 members, $14.

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was pastor of this congregation until his retirement from the active ministry in 1939.

An appreciation of his work in the ministry will be published in a later issue of THE LUTHERAN.

OBITUARY

The Rev. John Kupfer

The Rev. John Kupfer was born June 14, 1858, at Altenstein, Germany, where he attended school as a student of languages. At the age of seventeen years he came to America and later entered the Lutheran Theological Seminary of the General Synod in Chicago. After graduation he was ordained to the gospel ministry at Racine, Wis., September 5, 1897.

Pastor Kupfer served three congregations during his 35 years in the ministry; the first, St. John's Church, La Fayette, Ind., 1897-1903. His missionary zeal was evidenced by serving the neighboring community. He was instrumental in building a church for the mission, and served it until a pastor was called. Also while here he married Miss Margaret Heisser, August 26, 1903.

Called to St. John's congregation, Campbell Hill, Ill., in 1903, he served in this parish until 1921, during which time the congregation built a new church.

From Illinois, he was called to St. Mark's Church, Pender, Nebr., in 1921. Here he closed his active ministry in 1932, and retired to Fremont, Nebraska. However, his interest in the work of the Church and his own personal studies of the Scriptures were maintained to the very last. He took an active part in the work of Salem Church, where he held his membership.

In recent months he had been in failing health, though able to be about. A few minutes after midnight, June 29, God's angel called him from this life to rest from his labors.

Surviving him are his wife, and four children: John, of Fremont; Paul, of Omaha; Miss Gertrude Teply, of Lincoln; and Miss Ruth Kupfer, of Chicago; also two grandsons.

E. C. HAUSER.
Necrologist of the Midwest Synod.

Mrs. Viggo Swensen

Mae Bickford Swensen, wife of the Rev. Viggo Swensen, pastor of St. Peter's Church, Syracuse, N. Y., entered into eternal rest quite suddenly at the Syracuse General Hospital on July 19.

Mrs. Swensen was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Bickford of Centerport, Long Island. She was born October 29, 1905, in Brooklyn, N. Y. She attended Hood College, Frederick, Md., and was a graduate of the Lutheran Deaconess Motherhouse, Baltimore, Md. She was united in marriage to the Rev. Viggo Swensen June 10, 1934. She and Pastor Swensen came to St. Peter's Church July 1941.

Mrs. Swensen is survived by her husband, her parents; one daughter, Nancy; two sons, Robert and Thomas; and a brother, Robert Bickford of Huntington, L. I.

The funeral service was held in St. Peter's Church, July 23, with the Rev. Christian P. Jensen, pastor of Zion Church, conducting the service. The interment took place at Woodlawn Cemetery, Syracuse, N. Y.

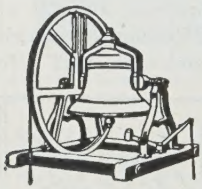
Mrs. Swensen had won the love and admiration not only of the members of St. Peter's Church but also of all the churches. She was especially honored for her strong Christian faith and her deep devotion to the work of the Kingdom.

Christian P. Jensen.

"Your Life Today"

For two months, August and September, every Tuesday morning from 8.15 to 8.30, Eastern War Time, Dr. Russell F. Auman, pastor of St. Peter's Lutheran Church, New York City, will broadcast over the facilities of the American Broadcasting Company, in co-operation with the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America. The broadcasts will originate in the studio of Station WJZ, New York.

The general subject of the series is to be "Your Life Today." These broadcasts are sponsored by the **Lutheran Laymen's Radio Committee, 297 Fourth Ave., New York 10, N. Y.** which also sponsors the "Sunday Vespers" radio programs.



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NOTICE

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PLACE orders for your *second year* CHRISTIAN GROWTH SERIES materials *immediately* upon receipt of periodical notices to be sent early in August. *Immediate* attention is necessary because extensive troop movements and redeployment to the Pacific theatre will affect delivery of civilian materials. Also, the demand may exceed the supply—first come, first served!

A SIX-PAGE SUPPLEMENT to the bulletin on the CHRISTIAN GROWTH SERIES gives information on second year materials and describes its units. It will be sent with periodical notices and is to be included in a circular mailing to pastors and superintendents about August 15. Copies to others on request.

A SAMPLE PACKET, including a set of first quarter materials for pupil and teacher is available at 75 cents to schools considering this material for introduction beginning the first Sunday in October. Limited to one set and restricted to new users.

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